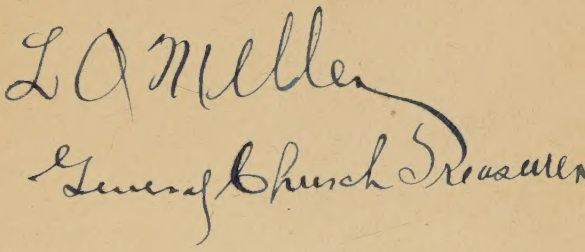

Origin, Doctrine, Constitution

and

Discipline

of the

United Brethren in Christ

Otterbein Press
United Brethren Publishing House
Dayton, Ohio
1909

W. R. FUNK, Publisher

Edited by the Codifying Committee
by Authority of the General Conference

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PART I.

THE CHURCH.

CHAPTER I.

ORIGIN OF THE UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST.

IN the eighteenth century it pleased the Lord our God to awaken persons in different parts of the world, who should raise up the Christian religion from its fallen state and preach the gospel of Christ crucified in its purity.

About the middle of said century, the Lord, in mercy, remembered the Germans in America, who, living scattered in this extensive country, seldom had an opportunity to hear the gospel of a crucified Savior preached to them in their native language.

Among others, he raised up WILLIAM OTTERBEIN and MARTIN BOEHM, in the State of Pennsylvania, and GEORGE A. GUETHING, in the State of Maryland, armed them with spirit, grace, and strength to labor in his neglected vineyard, and to call, among the Germans in America, sinners to repentance. These men obeyed the call of their Lord and Master. Their labors were blessed, and they established in many places excellent societies and led many precious souls to Jesus Christ. Their sphere of action spread more and more, so that they found it necessary to look about for more fellow-laborers to toil in the vineyard of the Lord; for the harvest was great and the laborers

were few. The Lord called others, who were willing to devote their strength to his service. Such persons were accepted by one or another of the preachers as fellow-laborers.

The number of members in the society in different parts of the country continued to increase as time passed, and the gracious work of reformation spread through the States of Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia. Several great meetings were appointed and held annually. On such occasions OTTERBEIN would hold particular conversations with the preachers then present, and represent to them the importance of the ministry and the necessity of their utmost endeavors to save souls. At one of these meetings it was resolved to hold a conference of all the preachers, in order to consider in what manner they might be most useful.

The first conference was held in the city of Baltimore, Maryland, in the year of our Lord 1789. The following preachers were present:

WILLIAM OTTERBEIN, ADAM LEHMAN,
MARTIN BOEHM, JOHN ERNST,
GEO. A. GUETHING, HENRY WEIDNER,
CHRISTIAN NEWCOMER.

The second conference was held in Paradise Township, York County, Pennsylvania, at the house of BROTHER JOHN SPANGLER, in the year of our Lord 1791. The following preachers were present:

WILLIAM OTTERBEIN, JOHN ERNST,
MARTIN BOEHM, J. G. PFRIMMER,
GEO. A. GUETHING, JOHN NEIDIG,
CHRISTIAN NEWCOMER, BENEDICT SANDERS,
ADAM LEHMAN.

After mature deliberations as to how they might labor most usefully in the vineyard of the Lord, they again appointed as fellow-laborers such as they had come to believe had experienced true religion in their souls.

Meantime, the number of members continued to increase, and the preachers were obliged to appoint an annual conference, in order to unite themselves more closely and to labor more successfully in the vineyard of the Lord; for some had been Presbyterians or German Reformed, some Lutherans, and others Mennonites. They accordingly ap-

pointed a conference to be held on the 25th of September, 1800, in Frederick County, Maryland, at the house of Brother Frederick Kemp. The following preachers were present:

William Otterbein,	Christian Krum,
Martin Boehm,	Henry Krum,
Geo. A. Guething,	John Hershey,
Christian Newcomer,	Jacob Geisinger,
Adam Lehman,	Henry Boehm,
Abraham Troxel,	Dietrich Aurand,

J. G. Pfrimmer.

There they united themselves into a society which bears the name "United Brethren in Christ," and elected William Otterbein and Martin Boehm as superintendents, or bishops, and agreed that each of them should have liberty as to the mode of baptism, to administer it according to his own convictions.

From this time, the society increasing still more and more, preachers were appointed to travel regularly, as the number of preaching-places could not otherwise be supplied. The work soon extended into the States of Ohio and Kentucky. It then became necessary to appoint a conference in the State of Ohio, because it was thought too laborious for the preachers who labored in those States to travel annually such a great distance to conference.

Meantime, Martin Boehm and George A. Guething died, and Bishop Otterbein desired that another bishop should be elected, (because infirmity and old age would not permit him to superintend any longer,) who should take charge of the society, and preserve discipline and order. It was resolved at a former conference that whenever one of the bishops died another should be elected in his place. Accordingly, Christian Newcomer was elected bishop, to take charge of and superintend the concerns of the society.

The want of a book of discipline in the society had long been deeply felt. Partial attempts to provide one had been made at different times. Hence it was resolved, at the conference held in the State of Ohio, that a General Conference should be held, in order to provide the same, in a manner not derogatory to the Word of God. The members of this conference were to be elected from among the preachers in the different parts of the country, by a vote

of the society in general. The following brethren were duly elected:

Christian Newcomer,	Daniel Troyer,
Abraham Hiestand,	George Benedum,
Andrew Zeller,	Abraham Troxel,
Christian Berger,	Henry G. Spayth,
Abraham Mayer,	I. Niswander,
John Schneider,	Christian Krum,
Henry Kumler,	Jacob Bowlus.

The conference convened on the 6th of June, 1815, near Mt. Pleasant, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. After mature deliberation, they presented to their brethren a Book of Discipline, containing the doctrine and rules of the Church, desiring that these, together with the Word of God, should be strictly observed, and admonishing the membership in the following manner:

God is a God of order; but where there is no order and no church discipline, the spirit of love and charity will be lost.

Therefore, brethren, we beseech you to follow the example of our Lord, as it is written, "Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honor preferring one another." Let the mind be in you which was in Christ, who took upon him the form of a servant, humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross, that by his grace we may submit ourselves one to another in the fear of God. He who will not submit is in want of humble love. Jesus said, "Whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all." "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." "He that loveth not his brother abideth in death." Let us walk in newness of life, that the prayer of our Lord may be answered in us; that we may be one in him, and that he may give us the glory which he gave to his disciples, that we may be one, even as he and the Father are one. Therefore, beloved brethren, let us strive to be like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let no one speak or think evil of his brother, but pray God that he may grant us his spirit, and an earnest desire to lead a truly devoted life, to the honor and glory of his holy name. Amen.

Editors' Note.—The foregoing account of the origin of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ appeared in the

Discipline of 1815, the first Discipline published. Only the slightest changes in phraseology, as the years have passed, have been made. The place of the Conference of 1800, given as Frederick Kemp's, is the same as the residence of Peter Kemp, as in the history of the United Brethren Church, the two men being father and son, and the farm passing from the possession of one to that of the other. The present Discipline contains the Confession of Faith and the Constitution as amended according to the action of the General Conference of 1885, and approved and confirmed by the General Conference of 1889. The Confession of Faith appeared in its first printed form in 1815. The Constitution, in its earlier form, was adopted in 1841.

CHAPTER II.

Confession of Faith.

In the name of God, we declare and confess before all men the following articles of our belief:

ARTICLE I.

Of God and the Holy Trinity.

We believe in the only true God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; that these three are one—the Father in the Son, the Son in the Father, and the Holy Ghost equal in essence or being with the Father and the Son.

ARTICLE II.

Of Creation and Providence.

We believe that this triune God created the heavens and the earth, and all that in them is, visible and invisible; that he sustains, protects, and governs these, with gracious regard for the welfare of man, to the glory of his name.

ARTICLE III.

Of Jesus Christ.

We believe in Jesus Christ; that he is very God and man; that he became incarnate by the power of the Holy Ghost and was born of the Virgin Mary; that he is the Savior and Mediator of the whole human race, if they with full faith accept the grace proffered in Jesus; that this Jesus suffered and died on the cross for us, was buried, rose again on the third day, ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God, to intercede for us; and that he will come again at the last day to judge the living and the dead.

ARTICLE IV.

Of the Holy Ghost.

We believe in the Holy Ghost; that he is equal in being with the Father and the Son; that he convinces the

world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment; that he comforts the faithful and guides them into all truth.

ARTICLE V.

Of the Holy Scriptures.

We believe that the Holy Bible, Old and New Testaments, is the word of God; that it reveals the only true way to our salvation; that every true Christian is bound to acknowledge and receive it by the help of the Spirit of God as the only rule and guide in faith and practice.

ARTICLE VI.

Of the Church.

We believe in a holy Christian church, composed of true believers, in which the word of God is preached by men divinely called, and the ordinances are duly administered; that this divine institution is for the maintenance of worship, for the edification of believers, and the conversion of the world to Christ.

ARTICLE VII.

Of the Sacraments.

We believe that the sacraments, Baptism and the Lord's Supper, are to be used in the Church, and should be practiced by all Christians; but the mode of baptism and the manner of observing the Lord's Supper are always to be left to the judgment and understanding of each individual. Also, the baptism of children shall be left to the judgment of believing parents.

The *example* of the washing of feet is to be left to the judgment of each one, to practice or not.

ARTICLE VIII.

Of Depravity.

We believe that man is fallen from original righteousness, and, apart from the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, is not only entirely destitute of holiness, but is inclined to evil, and only evil, and that continually; and that except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of heaven.

ARTICLE IX.

Of Justification.

We believe that penitent sinners are justified before God only by faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, and not by works; yet that good works in Christ are acceptable to God, and spring out of a true and living faith.

ARTICLE X.

Of Regeneration and Adoption.

We believe that regeneration is the renewal of the heart of man after the image of God, through the word, by the act of the Holy Ghost, by which the believer receives the spirit of adoption, and is enabled to serve God with the will and the affections.

ARTICLE XI.

Of Sanctification.

We believe that sanctification is the work of God's grace, through the word and the Spirit, by which those who have been born again are separated in their acts, words, and thoughts from sin, and are enabled to live unto God, and to follow holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.

ARTICLE XII.

Of the Christian Sabbath.

We believe that the Christian Sabbath is divinely appointed; that it is commemorative of our Lord's resurrection from the grave, and is an emblem of our eternal rest; that it is essential to the welfare of the civil community, and to the permanence and growth of the Christian church, and that it should be reverently observed as a day of holy rest and of social and public worship.

ARTICLE XIII.

Of the Future State.

We believe in the resurrection of the dead; the future general judgment; and an eternal state of rewards, in which the righteous dwell in endless life, and the wicked in endless punishment.

CHAPTER III.

CONSTITUTION.

IN the name of God, we, the members of the CHURCH OF THE UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, for the more speedy and effectual spread of the gospel, and in order to produce and secure uniformity in faith and practice, to define the powers and business of the General Conference as recognized by this Church, and to preserve inviolate the popular will of the membership of the Church, do ordain this CONSTITUTION:

ARTICLE I.

SECTION 1. All ecclesiastical power herein granted to enact or repeal any rule or rules of Discipline is vested in a General Conference, which shall consist of elders and laymen elected in each annual-conference district throughout the Church. The number and ratio of elders and laymen, and the mode of their election, shall be determined by the General Conference.

Provided, however, That such elders shall have stood as elders in the conferences which they are to represent for no less time than three years next preceding the meeting of the General Conference to which they are elected; and that such laymen shall be not less than twenty-five years of age, and shall have been members of the Church six years, and members in the conference districts which they are to represent at least three years next preceding the meeting of the General Conference to which they are elected.

SEC. 2. The General Conference shall convene every four years, and a majority of the whole number of delegates elected shall constitute a quorum.

SEC. 3. The ministerial and lay delegates shall deliberate and vote together as one body; but the General Con-

ference shall have power to provide for a vote by separate orders whenever it deems it best to do so; and in such cases the concurrent vote of both orders shall be necessary to complete an action.

SEC. 4. The General Conference shall, at such session, elect bishops from among the elders throughout the Church who have stood six years in that capacity.

SEC. 5. The bishops shall be members *ex officio* and presiding officers of the General Conference; but in case no bishop be present, the Conference shall choose a president *pro tem.*

SEC. 6. The General Conference shall determine the number and boundaries of the annual conferences.

SEC. 7. The General Conference shall have power to review the records of the annual conferences and see that the business of each annual conference is done strictly in accordance with the Discipline, and approve or annul, as the case may require.

SEC. 8. The General Conference shall have full control of the United Brethren Printing Establishment, the Home Missionary Society, and the Foreign Missionary Society (legal successors to the Home, Frontier, and Foreign Missionary Society of the United Brethren in Christ), the Church Erection Society, the General Sabbath School Board, the Board of Education, and the Bonebrake Theological Seminary. It shall also have power to establish and manage any other organization or institution within the Church which it may deem helpful in the work of evangelization.

SEC. 9. The General Conference shall have power to establish a court of appeals.

SEC. 10. The General Conference may—two-thirds of the members elected thereto concurring — propose changes in, or additions to the Confession of Faith; provided, that the concurrence of three-fourths of the annual conferences shall be necessary to their final ratification.

ARTICLE II.

The General Conference shall have power, as provided in Article I., Section 1, of this Constitution, to make rules and regulations for the Church; nevertheless, it shall be subject to the following limitations and restrictions:

SECTION 1. The General Conference shall enact no rule or ordinance which will change or destroy the Confession

of Faith, and shall establish no standard of doctrine contrary to the Confession of Faith.

SEC. 2. The General Conference shall enact no rule which will destroy the itinerant plan.

SEC. 3. The General Conference shall enact no rule which will deprive local preachers of their votes in the annual conferences to which they severally belong.

SEC. 4. The General Conference shall enact no rule which will abolish the right of appeal.

ARTICLE III.

SECTION 1. We declare that all secret combinations which infringe upon the rights of those outside their organization, and whose principles and practices are injurious to the Christian character of their members, are contrary to the Word of God, and that Christians ought to have no connection with them.

The General Conference shall have power to enact such rules of discipline with respect to such combinations as in its judgment it may deem proper.

SEC. 2. We declare that human slavery is a violation of human rights, and contrary to the Word of God. It shall therefore in no wise be tolerated among us.

ARTICLE IV.

The right, title, interest, and claim of all property, both real and personal, of whatever name or description, obtained by purchase or otherwise, by any person or persons, for the use, benefit, and behoof of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, are hereby fully recognized, and held to vest in the Church aforesaid.

ARTICLE V.

SECTION 1. Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by any General Conference,—two-thirds of the members elected thereto concurring,—which amendments shall be submitted to a vote of the membership throughout the Church, under regulations authorized by said conference.

A majority of all the votes cast upon any submitted amendment shall be necessary to its final ratification.

SEC. 2. The foregoing amended Constitution shall be in force from and after the first Monday after the second

Thursday of May, 1889, upon official proclamation thereof by the Board of Bishops; provided, that the General Conference elected for 1889 shall be the lawful legislative body under the amended Constitution, with full power, until its final adjournment, to enact such rules as this amended Constitution authorizes.

PART II.

MEMBERSHIP, GOVERNMENT, AND MINISTRY.

CHAPTER IV.

MEMBERS.

SECTION I.

RECEPTION OF MEMBERS.

1. WHEN at any meeting there are persons who desire to unite with the Church, the officiating minister shall call the applicants forward and address them as follows:

DEAR FRIENDS: Inasmuch as you present yourselves for admission into the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, we rejoice with you that through the grace of God you have been brought to a knowledge of the truth, and have been made partakers of his great salvation. The privileges you seek are above price, and the duties enjoined are solemn. It is proper that you publicly confess your faith and avow your purpose by answering the following questions:

Questions to Applicants.

2. (1) Do you believe the Bible to be the word of God, and that therein only is contained the knowledge of the way of salvation?

(2) Do you believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and do you accept him as your personal Savior?

(3) Are you determined by the grace of God to follow Christ, renouncing the world and all ungodliness, seeking to lead a life of holiness and devotion to God and his cause?

(4) Are you willing to be governed by our Church Discipline, and will you contribute to the support of the gospel as God prospers you?

(5) Have you been baptized?

[If the answer to this question be in the negative, then the applicant shall be instructed to attend to the duty as soon as practicable.]

Acceptance of Applicants.

3. If the persons answer the above questions in the affirmative, and no lawful objections be made by any member, then the preacher shall give his right hand to such persons as members of our Church. Then the members of the Church will stand, and the minister will repeat this covenant as follows: "Do you, the members of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, enter into a covenant with this applicant [or these applicants] for membership, and promise to watch over, instruct, counsel, and cherish him [or her or them] with all long-suffering, gentleness, and love?" The Church will then answer, "By the grace of God, we will." After which the hand of fellowship may be extended. The preacher shall then register the names of the accepted members in the Church record.

Committee on Applicants for Membership.

4. A local church, when it deems it advisable for its protection against imposition, may appoint a committee on applicants for membership, who, together with the pastor, may make inquiry as to the advisability of admitting such applicants to membership in the Church according to the foregoing requirements.

Receiving Persons from Other Churches.

5. When persons come to us with certificates of good standing in other recognized evangelical churches, they shall answer the fourth question affirmatively, and the hand of fellowship may be given them as in other cases.

Seekers.

6. Any persons giving evidence that they are sincerely seeking the Lord, may be received under the watch-care of the Church by having their names placed upon the church book, but shall not be reported as members, nor shall they have a vote in the Church until they shall have conformed to the conditions in this section relating to the reception of members.

7. If any person thus received under the watch-care of the Church shall cease to manifest a desire to seek the Lord, the preacher in charge, by the consent of the local church or the official board, may, at any time, after personal but unsuccessful labor for his salvation, drop the name of such seeker.

Preacher's Responsibility.

8. Any preacher refusing or neglecting to ask the foregoing questions, except in the case of children, or who shall receive members into the Church in violation of this order, shall be answerable for the same to the conference of which he is a member.

SECTION II.

DUTIES OF MEMBERS.

Means of Grace.

1. Every member shall endeavor to lead a godly life; observe the ordinances of God's house, namely, baptism and the remembrance of the sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ; be diligent in prayer, particularly in private, and for his own edification attend our prayer- and class-meetings, and meetings for public worship.

Family Piety.

2. Heads of families should never omit to pray with their families, morning and evening, and to set them a good example in all the Christian virtues.

Singing.

3. It is the duty of all the people of God to sing his praises, and to sing them in the great congregation as well as in the private circle. It is therefore earnestly advised that all our people cultivate vocal music, so that the singing in our congregations may be improved. As a help to this end, let all our people provide themselves with hymn-books for use in public and social worship.

Love to Others.

4. Every one should strive to walk as in the presence of God, and accustom himself to a close communion with God in all his employments. He should never speak evil of his fellow-men, but practice love toward friend and foe, do good to the poor, and endeavor to be a follower of Jesus Christ indeed.

Sabbath Observance.

5. Every one shall keep the Sabbath day holy, as required in the Word of God; neither buy nor sell, but spend the same in exercises of devotion, in reading and hearing

the Word of God, and in singing spiritual hymns to the honor and glory of God.

Obedience to Government.

6. It is the duty of every member to lead a quiet, peaceable, and godly life among men; as it becomes a Christian to live in peace, and be subject to the higher or ruling powers, as the Word of God requires.

Sabbath Schools.

7. It is the duty of our members to encourage our Sabbath schools by their presence, and always to give them their aid and influence.

Young People's Society.

8. It is the duty of the young members of the Church to join the Young People's Society, and by faithfulness to its requirements seek to develop Christian character and efficiency in Christian work.

Support of the Gospel.

9. It is the duty of all members of the Church to pay toward the support of the itinerant ministry, weekly, monthly, or quarterly, in proportion to their ability, as God has prospered them; for the Lord hath ordained that they who preach the gospel shall live of the gospel. (I. Cor. 9:14; I. Tim. 5:18.) It is earnestly urged that all our people practice the Bible method of weekly contributions. "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him" (I. Cor. 16:2).

Delinquent Members.

10. Any member refusing to pay toward the support of the Church shall be reported by the steward to the class, or official board, and if refusal is persisted in, shall be suspended or expelled, as the local church or official board may determine. In case a member is suspended, all his privileges and functions as a member of the Church cease during such suspension.

Support of General Interests.

11. It is also the duty of all our members to contribute, according to their ability, to the support of the various benevolent interests of the Church.

Receiving Ministers.

12. It is the duty of all districts, stations, circuits, and missions cheerfully to receive the preachers appointed by the stationing committees of the respective annual conferences.

Care of the Poor.

13. Each member of our Church should willingly and freely contribute quarterly, or oftener if need be, as God has prospered him (I. Cor. 16:2), to the support of the helpless poor.

14. When it is known by any of our class-leaders that there are poor members of the class, who by sickness, accident, or other circumstances have been brought to want, it shall be the duty of the leader in charge to wait upon the class, or to appoint some one to do so, to ask such aid, money, clothing, or produce, as the circumstances may require. Should any one class be unable to relieve its poor, this shall then be made known to the pastor, whose duty it shall be to inform the different classes on his charge; and if it should so happen that any one charge should be unable to meet the wants of the poor, it shall be the duty of the presiding elder to present the matter to the quarterly conferences of the different charges, so that the unavoidably poor of our Church may be provided for. (I. John 3:17; Ps. 12:1, 2.)

Nonconformity to the World.

15. Inasmuch as the Lord has commanded us not to be conformed to this world (Rom. 12:2), to lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness (Jas. 1:21), and as the principles of the Christian religion, as taught by both the precepts and example of the meek and adorable Savior, are in strict and perfect accordance with these commandments, we therefore humbly beseech and admonish the members of our Church to observe these divine precepts. "In like manner, also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broidered hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; but (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works" (I. Tim. 2:9, 10); and "whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; but let it

be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price" (I. Pet. 3: 3, 4).

Necessity of Union Among Ourselves.

16. Let us be deeply sensible of the evil of a division in principle, spirit, or practice, and of its dreadful consequences to ourselves and others. If we are united, what can stand before us? If we are divided, we shall injure ourselves, the work of God, and the souls of men. To this end:

(1) Let us be deeply convinced of the absolute necessity of union.

(2) Let us pray earnestly for one another, and speak truly and freely to one another.

(3) When we meet, let us never part without prayer, if prayer is at all practicable.

(4) Let us take great care not to despise one another's gifts.

(5) Let us never speak lightly of one another.

(6) Let us defend one another's character in everything, as far as is consistent with truth.

(7) Let us labor in honor, each preferring another before himself.

(8) Let us seriously examine the causes, evils, and cures of heart and church divisions.

Duty of Obedience.

17. The foregoing rules are drawn up for the better regulation of our Church; and we believe they are founded upon the Word of God, and that their observance is incumbent upon all members. Should any violate or habitually neglect these rules, they shall be, by their respective class-leaders, admonished to reformation; and should they not reform, they shall be suspended or expelled, as the case may require, by vote of the local church or official board.

SECTION III.

TRIAL OF MEMBERS.

Personal Trespass.

1. When members trespass against one another, let the following directions be followed:

"If thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone; if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more . . . And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church; but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican" (Matt. 18: 15-17); that is, he shall be expelled by the local church or official board.

Immoral Conduct.

2. In case of a member accused of immoral conduct, the class or official board shall appoint one or more to visit the accused person, and, if possible, reclaim him; but if unsuccessful, and the guilt be denied, he shall be tried by a committee of said class or board chosen by the parties concerned, with the preacher in charge of the circuit or station as chairman; and if found guilty, the accused shall be expelled unless satisfaction be given. If the accused refuse to choose his committeeman when properly notified, the quarterly conference shall choose a second person, and these two a third, which committee shall try the case and decide. Yet cases may occur where it would be expedient to choose a committee from some other class or classes than the one to which the parties belong, in which case it shall be lawful to do so. Also, an elder may be chosen as chairman, should the preacher in charge deem this to be best. Should any member be dissatisfied with the decision, an appeal may be had to the quarterly conference, by giving notice thereof to the preacher in charge, or secretary of the committee. (See Chapter X., Section I., page 82.) In such cases, however, the same persons shall not sit in judgment on the same case.

Disobedience to the Order of the Church.

3. In cases of neglect of duty of any kind, imprudent conduct, indulging sinful tempers or words, or disobedience to the order and discipline of the Church: First, let private reproof be given by the preacher or leader; and if there be an acknowledgment of the fault, proper humiliation, and a promise to reform, the person may be borne with. On a second offense, the preacher or leader shall take with him one or two faithful members. On a third offense, let the case be brought before the local church, official board, or a select committee; and if there be no satisfactory

humiliation, the offender shall be expelled by vote of the local church or official board. In case the accused shall deny his guilt and demand a trial, and there be a reasonable doubt or question about his guilt, he shall be tried by a committee, and, if found guilty, he shall be expelled. In case of trial under this clause, the leader shall act in behalf of the local church; or if the leader be the offender, the steward shall act as prosecutor.

Disputes.

4. In case of a dispute between members or preachers, the preacher to whom it shall be known shall inquire into the circumstances of the case, and, if necessary, shall recommend to the contending parties a reference to a committee consisting of one arbiter chosen by the plaintiff, and another by the defendant, and a third by these two; then these three are to decide. But if the preacher to whom the dispute is known shall refuse or neglect to act, then the quarterly conference shall appoint some one to carry out the rule; and if either or both disputants refuse to choose an arbiter, the quarterly conference shall appoint the first and second, and these two a third, who shall hear the case and decide.

Right of Appeal.

5. Should either party be dissatisfied with the decision, an appeal may be taken to the next quarterly conference for a second arbitration, where each party shall choose two arbiters, and the four shall choose a fifth, a decision of a majority of whom shall be final. Any member refusing to abide by this decision shall be expelled without further trial. Members of the Church or congregation who are present at a local church trial, but take no part in said trial, are not disqualified because of said presence from sitting on the case, if an appeal is taken from the decision reached by said church.

Going to Law Forbidden.

6. Any member refusing, in case of debt or dispute, to refer the matter to arbitration when recommended to him by a preacher or leader, or who shall enter into lawsuit with another member before these measures are taken, shall be dealt with as in case of other immoralities, except when the case is of such a nature as to require and

justify a process at law, as in acting as administrators, or when a member is in danger, by delay, of suffering a loss of property.

Record of Trials.

7. A faithful record of the proceedings of any church trial conducted in a local church shall be kept by the church clerk in a book provided for that purpose; and it shall be his duty, in case of an appeal, to furnish his record to the quarterly conference.

Order in Trials.

8. All church trials shall be conducted in a consistent Christian manner, without the employment of magistrates and attorneys to administer oaths and conduct investigations. The Manual of Discipline, authorized by the General Conference, shall be the recognized authority governing all Church trials.

Section IV.

TRANSFER AND WITHDRAWAL OF MEMBERS.

Certificate of Transfer of Members.

1. When a member of our Church removes from one pastoral charge to another, he shall obtain a certificate of transfer by a majority vote of the membership, or official board of the local church of which he is a member, signed by the pastor, or if there is no pastor, by the class-leader, the certificate to be in the form of No. 1, Section I., Chapter XXVII., of our Book of Discipline.

A footnote shall be subjoined to all certificates of transfer, as follows:

NOTE.—This is not a letter of dismissal from our Church, and it does not terminate the connection of the member with the local church which grants the transfer.

Transfer of Non-Resident Members.

2. In case that any member of our Church who does not reside in reach of a local church shall make application to the pastor for a certificate of transfer, the pastor may issue such certificate to said member if his Christian life is known to be good, and he has settled all his church dues, subscriptions, and assessments.

Notice of Forwarding Certificates.

3. The pastor who issues a certificate of transfer as provided in either of the preceding sections, shall, if practicable, forward such certificate, with proper notice and explanation to the pastor of the charge to which the member receiving the certificate shall remove.

Notice of Reception of Members on Certificate.

4. When a pastor shall have received a member on a certificate of transfer he shall notify the pastor, or class-leader, of the local church from which it was issued, and said pastor, or leader, shall enter on the church record opposite the name of the transferred member, the words "Removed by certificate of transfer."

Certificate of Recommendation.

5. When a member of our Church shall remove from one of our pastoral charges to another, and shall make application to the pastor for a letter of recommendation by which he may unite either with another evangelical church or one of our local churches, said member may be entitled to receive such certificate of recommendation by a majority vote of the membership, or official board of the local church of which he is a member, signed by the pastor, or, if there is no pastor, by the class-leader; provided, that the good standing of said member is evidenced by the settlement of all his church dues, subscriptions, and assessments, and by his observance of the rules of our Church pertaining to the "Duties of Members" contained in Section II., Chapter IV., of our Discipline, said certificate to be in the form of No. 2, Section I., Chapter XXVII., of our Discipline.

Limitation of Certificates.

6. A certificate issued to a member of our Church as provided in either of the preceding sections must be presented to some local church, or returned to the church by which it was granted, within eighteen months; otherwise it becomes null and void.

Amenability of Certified Member.

7. A member receiving a certificate of transfer, or recommendation, is amenable to the local church by which it was granted until said certificate is deposited with some

other local church, or until the certificate expires by limitation.

Disposal of Delinquent Non-Resident Members.

8. In case a member moves from a pastoral charge and fails to report to the local church of which he is a member, at least once each conference year, he may be marked "Removed without certificate."

Certificate of Withdrawal.

9. If a member of our Church desires to withdraw from the Church, and his Christian life has been good, and he has settled all his church dues, subscriptions, and assessments, he shall be entitled to a certificate of honorable withdrawal from the Church by a majority vote of the membership, or official board of the local church of which he is a member, signed by the pastor, or, if there is no pastor, by the class-leader, said certificate to be in the form of No. 3, Section I., of Chapter XXVII., of our Discipline.

Membership of Preachers.

10. An annual-conference member may be received into a class on his ministerial credentials, provided said credentials are held in force by the conference to which he is amenable.

Membership of Preachers Required.

11. All quarterly- and annual-conference preachers are required to hold membership in some local church, and upon neglect or refusal to do so shall lose their official relation.

CHAPTER V.

Government of the Church.

Section I.

CLASSES.

Local Church Organization.

1. A LOCAL church of the United Brethren in Christ may be organized, where not already established, by any regularly authorized minister or missionary of the denomination, who shall enroll the names of not less than five resident persons in a book of record, giving to each the right hand of fellowship, and causing one or more class-leaders to be elected and appointing one or more stewards.[1]

Division into Classes.

2. A local church may be divided into two or more classes, if deemed proper to do so, by the pastor and official board. In all cases, each class shall elect its own leader, near the close of each official year. After such division the word "class" shall denote only a section of the local church.

Disbanding Classes.

3. When a quarterly conference deems it impracticable to maintain the organization of a church in any place, whatever members remain shall be by the pastor transferred to such class as may be desired by the member or members to be so transferred.

Section II.

CLASS-LEADERS.

Qualifications.

1. It shall be the leader's duty to live a pious life and set a godly example before his class; carefully to study

[1]NOTE.—Until the congregation thus constituted becomes so large as to require dividing into classes or sections, for purposes of convenience and efficiency, the words "church," "congregation," and "class" shall denote the same aggregate church membership.

the Holy Scriptures, fully qualifying himself for the faithful performance of his duties as a leader and counselor of his class.

Holding Meetings.

2. It shall be his duty to meet his class, in class- or prayer-meeting, as often as practicable, to speak to them concerning their spiritual welfare, and exhort them to unity and love. He shall extend the freedom of our prayer- and class-meetings to all sincere and well-disposed persons who may desire to attend them.

Visiting the Sick and Delinquent.

3. When any of his members are sick, or delinquent in the performance of their duties, he shall visit them and labor with them as circumstances may require, or arrange for some one else to do so.

Class Record.

4. He shall keep a record of the members of the class, and shall make regular reports of his work, and the condition of his class, to the official board and quarterly conference.

Dismissal for Delinquency.

5. Any class-leader failing to discharge these duties may, on complaint, be removed by the quarterly conference.

Section III.

CLASS-STEWARDS.

1. Every church may have one or more class-stewards and one or more presiding-elder stewards; the former to be chosen as provided for on page 67 under "Annual Reorganization," the latter to be appointed by the pastor.

Collections for Pastors.

2. On circuits each member shall contribute quarterly, monthly, or oftener, and on stations, monthly or weekly, for the support of the pastor. Each steward shall keep an accurate account of the amount paid by each member of the class, in a book provided for that purpose, and report the same, with name and amount, to each quarterly conference; provided, however, that where the envelope

system is in use it shall be the duty of the general steward to receive the envelopes, keep a correct record of names and amounts paid, and report the same to the official board monthly. He shall furnish each steward, at the end of each month, a list of the names of those who are delinquent in payment of pastor's salary, with statement of the amount due from each. The stewards shall then endeavor to secure prompt payment of such deficits.

Elements for the Lord's Supper.

3. It shall also be the duty of stewards to provide the elements for the sacraments of the Lord's Supper, always securing unfermented wine.

Dismissal for Delinquency.

4. For the faithful discharge of their duties as stewards, they shall be accountable to the quarterly conference, which shall have power to dismiss them for official delinquency.

Presiding-Elder Steward.

5. The presiding-elder steward shall, under the direction of the pastor, secure quarterly, by private solicitation or otherwise, one-fourth of the yearly assessment to the class for presiding elder's salary, and report the same to the pastor on or before the time of each quarterly conference.

SECTION IV.

CHURCH DEACONS.

Every church may have one or more deacons, who shall be elected annually by vote of the church. The duties of a deacon shall be to collect funds for the needy, as provided for in Section II., paragraph 14, page 25, of the Discipline, under "Duties of Members," and disburse the same under the direction of a committee appointed by the official board, or, where the local church board is not organized, under the direction of the pastor.

SECTION V.

CHURCH CLERK.

There may be a church clerk who shall be elected by the local church or official board, who shall be the pastor's clerical assistant and work under his direction.

Section VI.

OFFICIAL BOARDS.

1. The properly recognized members of the quarterly conference shall be the members of the official board of each local church. On circuits the official board of each church shall have power to transact its business, the same as the official boards of stations.

2. The pastor shall be the president of the board; in his absence one of the members shall be elected president *pro tem.* The sessions shall begin and close with devotional exercises.

3. The board shall elect a secretary, who shall keep a record of its proceedings.

4. The general steward, elected by the quarterly conference, may be also the church treasurer. The treasurer shall receive all moneys that have been collected from class-stewards, or otherwise, and receipt therefore, and said treasurer shall pay out all moneys in his hands as the official board may direct.

5. The official board shall receive statements of all subscriptions and moneys received and disbursed for the interest of the local church; and all persons intrusted with moneys or subscriptions, whether trustees, stewards, the treasurer, or others, shall report the same to the official meeting as soon as possible.

6. It shall receive from each class-leader a statement in reference to the religious condition of his class.

7. The official boards shall be the estimating committee of the charge, unless otherwise specifically ordered by the quarterly conference as provided in Section VII., paragraph 13, page 38; and said committee shall meet the pastor as soon as practicable after the annual conference, and make out an estimate of the expenses of the charge for the year—the preacher's salary, the presiding elder's salary, sexton hire, cost of light, fuel, insurance, and any other ordinary expenses incident to the year's general account. An estimate of preacher's salary for the ensuing year may be made by said committee prior to the close of the conference year. It shall also determine how these funds are to be secured.—whether by assessments or subscription, and whether by envelope collections made weekly, or by the class-stewards, or both,—what per cent. is to be devoted to the preacher's

and presiding elder's salaries, and what per cent. to the current expenses of the charge.

8. The official board shall revise the church records, as provided in Section II., paragraph 3, page 67, and shall be the body to grant transfers and dismissals from the Church.

9. The official board on stations shall meet once a month, and on circuits, at the call of the pastor.

10. The official board may appoint an executive council of which the pastor shall be chairman, to act for the church in matters committed to them.

Review by Quarterly Conference.

11. The acts of the official boards shall be approved by the quarterly conference.

Section VII.

QUARTERLY CONFERENCE.

Members.

1. The members of the quarterly conference shall be the presiding elder of the district, the preacher in charge, and all properly recognized preachers, lay preachers, deaconesses, class-leaders, class-stewards, and all other stewards, whose appointments have been ratified by the quarterly conference, presidents of ladies' aid societies, church clerks, when properly recognized by the church, or official board, or quarterly conference, presidents of local woman's missionary associations, the church treasurer, trustees of church and parsonage houses, superintendents of Sabbath schools, and presidents of young people's societies, organized in harmony with the provisions of Discipline controlling the organization of such societies, and superintendents of junior societies, when similarly organized, presidents and secretaries of brotherhoods, all treasurers of ladies' aid societies, woman's missionary societies, young people's societies, and Sabbath schools, when said persons are members of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, who reside within the bounds of the station or circuit, or hold membership therein. Such members as are present at any regular meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The quarterly conference shall open and close with prayer. The quarterly conference shall be amenable to the annual conference for its official acts.

Duties and Powers of the Quarterly Conference.

2. In the absence of the presiding elder, the quarterly conference shall elect a chairman *pro tem.*, whose official acts shall be valid.

3. It shall elect a secretary, whose duty it shall be to keep a correct record of all its proceedings in a book provided for that purpose, in which the names of all the members composing the said conference shall be entered.

4. It shall make inquiry into the moral deportment and official character of all its members.

5. On stations, it shall elect, at the last quarterly conference of the year, a church treasurer, wherever desirable, who shall be a member of the quarterly conference.

6. It shall enforce discipline in all the classes under its jurisdiction, but in no case disorganize a class unless the preliminary steps have been taken as required in Chapter V., Section I., paragraph 3, page 32.

7. It shall hear the reports of the stewards, and make settlements with the pastor.

Appeals and Trials.

8. It shall receive and try all appeals, references, and complaints that may come regularly before it; but no member of quarterly conference can be suspended or expelled from the Church prior to a committee trial.

Licensing Preachers.

9. It shall have power to grant license to preach according to the provisions of Chapter VI., "Ministry of the Church."

Renewing Licenses.

10. It shall renew the license of lay preachers and quarterly-conference preachers annually, if they are found worthy, and may arrange a plan for the local preachers to preach regularly at stated places.

Recommending to the Annual Conference.

11. The quarterly conference may recommend to the annual conference licentiates of one or more years' standing, who have completed the course of reading required.

General Stewards.

12. The quarterly conference, at its last session in each year, shall elect by ballot a steward for the charge, whose

duty it shall be to assist the class-stewards in securing the pastor's salary, and to receive and audit the steward's reports.

Estimating Committee.

13. In cases of circuits, the quarterly conference may, at its last session for the year, appoint a finance committee, which committee shall meet at the time and place specified by the preacher appointed to the charge for the ensuing year, and make out an estimate of the regular expenses, and apportion the same, including the conference assessment for presiding elder's salary, among the different appointments according to their respective ability, and report the same to the quarterly conference for ratification. This committee shall also serve as an executive committee for the quarterly conference during the year in all matters of finance.

Apportionment to the Members.

14. As soon as convenient after each class has received its apportionment, on the call of the pastor, the official members shall meet and make a distribution of the apportionment, including the assessment for presiding elder, to the members severally, according to their ability, to be paid quarterly, monthly, or oftener; provided, however, that it shall be the privilege of any class to collect the amount apportioned to it by subscription or otherwise.

Place of Meeting.

15. The quarterly conference shall determine its places of meeting.

Appeals.

16. Any preacher dissatisfied with the decision of a quarterly conference shall, within thirty days after the quarterly conference, notify the secretary, in writing, of his intention to appeal, together with his reasons for so doing; and it shall be the duty of the secretary to take or send a certified copy of the proceedings, the notification, and reasons assigned, to the annual conference.

17. In all cases of appeal, whether to the quarterly or annual conference, or to the court of appeals, the course laid down in the chapter on "Appeals" is the proper course to be pursued.

Section VIII.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

Members.

1. The annual conference shall consist of all elders and licentiate preachers, who have been duly received, and one layman from each charge in the conference, who shall be elected by ballot, at the third or last session of the quarterly conference in the year, a majority of all the votes cast being necessary to a choice, and an alternate shall be elected at the same time and in like manner.

The delegate thus chosen shall not be one holding an annual-conference license as a minister,[1] nor one recommended to the annual conference for license to preach, and such delegate shall have all the rights and privileges of ministers in the annual conference except the right to vote upon the reception or expulsion of preachers, and the passing of preachers in the course of reading. Members of conference boards shall also be granted advisory seats. The conference treasurer also, when not a minister or a lay delegate, shall be given an advisory seat.

Devotions.

2. Suitable devotional exercises, consisting of scripture reading, singing, and prayer, shall be held at the opening and closing of the conference sessions.

Secretaries.

3. The conference shall elect by ballot one or more secretaries, as the case may require, who, in addition to discharging the regular duties of secretary, shall, immediately on the adjournment of the annual conference, transmit to the Publishing Agent, at Dayton, Ohio, a true transcript of the footings of the conference chart.

Bishop Pro Tempore.

4. If no bishop should be present, it shall be the duty of the annual conference to elect a bishop *pro tem.*, whose official acts shall be valid.

[1]Note.—It is also advised by the General Conference that wives of annual-conference ministers be not chosen as lay delegates.

Examinations.

5. All preachers shall report in person or by letter, and be examined respecting their deportment toward their fellow-men, whether their conduct in life be blameless, and whether they employ as much time as practicable to promote the kingdom of God (according to Tit. 1: 7-9 and II. Tim. 2: 15), and if found delinquent they shall be admonished or advised, as the case may require. But should all admonition or advice fail, then the name of the delinquent person shall be erased from the roll of the conference.

Absentees.

6. Should any member of the annual conference absent himself from the session of conference three years in succession, without giving a satisfactory reason for so doing, his name may be erased from the roll of the conference.

Electioneering Forbidden.

7. No preacher or layman shall be permitted to electioneer favorably to his own election to any office or delegation in the Church; and should any one be found doing so, if a preacher, he shall be held accountable to the next annual conference of which he is a member, and if a layman, he shall be held accountable to the class, to be dealt with, each, according to the judgment of said conference or class.

Authority of the Annual Conference.

8. An annual conference may adopt rules for its own government not in conflict with the Discipline of the Church.

Benevolent Funds.

9. The annual conference shall forward to the General Church Treasurer all moneys collected by the conference for all general benevolences, and in no case can these funds be diverted to conference interests.

Business Sheet.

10. The annual conference shall transact its business according to a business sheet prepared by the Board of Bishops.

Section IX.

GENERAL CONFERENCE.

Members.

1. (See Constitution, Article I., Section 1.)

Conference Representation.

2. The annual conferences shall be represented in the General Conference according to the following ratios: All conferences having less than two thousand members shall be entitled to two delegates, one ministerial and one lay; two thousand and less than four thousand, two ministerial and two lay; four thousand and less than eight thousand, three ministerial and three lay; eight thousand and less than fourteen thousand, four ministerial and four lay; over fourteen thousand, five ministerial and five lay.

Bishops' Announcement.

3. The Board of Bishops shall as early as possible announce the number of delegates to which each conference shall be entitled, as appearing from the statistics of the annual conferences at the end of the third year of the quadrennial term.

Nomination of Delegates.

4. It shall be the duty of the ministerial members of each annual conference at the session next preceding the election for delegates to General Conference, apart from the lay delegates, to nominate by ballot three times the number of ministerial delegates to be elected. It shall also be the duty of the lay delegates, in separate convention, to nominate by ballot three times the number of lay delegates to be elected. In both cases it shall require a majority of all the ballots cast to effect a nomination. This provision shall not be construed as depriving members of the right to vote, if desirous of doing so, for other ministers and laymen who are eligible.

Annual-Conference Tellers.

5. Each annual conference shall appoint a committee of three as a board of tellers and three as alternates, to receive and publicly count the votes, and issue certificates of election to those receiving the highest number of votes. It shall be the duty of the board of tellers to meet before

the month of November and appoint one of their number secretary; and to said secretary all returns of boards of election shall be made; and the said secretary shall retain under lock and key all such reports until the official count is made.

Lists of Nominees and Blanks.

6. The annual conference shall also furnish, through its recording secretary, to each preacher in charge of a field of labor a list of all the ministers and laymen nominated; and it shall be the duty of each presiding elder to have printed in convenient form, and deliver in due time to each pastor, printed tickets containing all the names nominated, with the post-office addresses, for use in the election of delegates. He shall also furnish to each preacher in charge on his district blank bills of election, which shall be distributed by the preachers to their respective boards of election.

Boards of Election.

7. The leaders and stewards of each local church shall constitute a board of election, who shall, by the pastor, be furnished a copy of the list of persons nominated; and the election shall be held invariably during the month of November next preceding the sitting of the General Conference.

8. It shall be the duty of the board of election of each local church publicly to announce, at least one week before the election, a meeting of the members of said church, for purpose of casting their ballot for delegates to represent them in the General Conference.

Absent Voters.

9. Should any member be incapacitated by age, affliction, non-residence, or other unavoidable circumstances, and should any minister be absent on his charge, such persons may send their ballots containing the names of their choice, with their own names signed on the back of their ballots; provided, that no votes shall be counted except those cast on the day appointed for such election.

Election Returns.

10. Each board of election shall immediately make up the bill of election, sign, enclose, and seal it, and transmit it to the secretary of the board of tellers appointed

by the annual conference, stating what church, circuit, mission, or station their vote represents. They shall also keep a correct copy of the bill they send to the tellers; also a list of the names of all the members voting, and also the tickets used in voting, until after the adjournment of the General Conference, when they may be destroyed.

11. Pastors shall be required to see that forms for the election of delegates are properly filled out and the returns of their charges sent in; they shall be held amenable to the annual conference for the discharge of this duty.

Canvassing and Publication of Returns.

12. The annual-conference board of tellers shall publish in the *Religious Telescope*, not later than the third week in December notice of the time and place of canvassing the returns, shall make out a list of all persons voted for, and of the number of votes for each; and should any two or more of the candidates have an equal number of votes, the tellers shall determine, by lot, which of them is elected. They shall also forward, by the tenth of January, to the editor of the *Religious Telescope* for publication the names and post-office addresses of those elected. They shall also transmit to the Publishing Agent, at Dayton, Ohio, a complete list of all persons voted for and the number of votes cast for each, which record shall be furnished to the ensuing General Conference, and if one or more of those elected should be prevented from attending, by death, sickness, or otherwise, it shall be the duty of the tellers or secretary of the General Conference to notify the next highest on the bill to take his place, and so on, descending, if need be, to the last candidate. No bills of election received by the tellers after the first day of January shall be counted.

Contests.

13. In case of contest for the seat of any delegate reported elected to the General Conference by the board of tellers of his conference, the contestor shall give notice to the contestee in writing forty days before the sitting of the General Conference, in which charges and specifications shall be plainly stated. Any person failing to give such notice shall forfeit his right to contest in the General Conference.

Location and Entertainment of the General Conference.

14. The arrangements for the place and entertainment of the General Conference, if not determined at its sessions, shall be referred, with full power to act, to the board of trustees and the Agent of the Printing Establishment.

15. Said board shall estimate the amount required for the expenses of the General Conference, including traveling expenses and boarding of delegates and bishops, and shall report the same to the Board of Bishops, who shall equitably apportion the same among, and report the same to the annual conferences early in the first year of the quadrennium next preceding the sitting of the General Conference: said apportionments shall be by each annual conference apportioned to each charge in the conference, and the pastors required to collect and turn over the same to the conference treasurer at the close of the year, and the conference treasurer shall, as soon as the apportionment is all collected, send said amount to the General Church Treasurer at Dayton, Ohio.

16. This money shall be known as the General Conference Expense Fund, and shall be distributed among the delegates and bishops in proportion to their traveling expenses by the most direct route to and from the seat of the General Conference, and shall include their board and lodging during the sessions of the Conference: provided, however, that if any conference shall fail to raise the full amount of its apportionment, said conference delegation shall receive from said fund in proportion to the amount raised by the conference.

Examination of Annual Conferences.

17. It shall be the duty of the General Conference to examine the administration of each annual conference, whether it has strictly observed the rules and preserved the moral and doctrinal principles of the Discipline in all its transactions.

Election of Officers.

18. In the election of all officers of the General Conference, a majority of all the votes shall be necessary to a choice.

Boards of Trustees.

19. If the board of trustees of any of our Church institutions shall, on account of removals, or otherwise, at

any time not have the number of members required by the charter of such institutions to be selected from a particular State, said board shall be authorized to supply said deficiency by the selection of additional trustees.

Section X.

GENERAL CHURCH TREASURER.[1]

The General Conference shall elect a General Church Treasurer, who shall be the treasurer of the Board of Trustees of the church of the United Brethren in Christ, and who shall receive and disburse, on order, the funds of the Home Missionary Society, the Foreign Missionary Society, Church Erection Society, the Board of Control of the Sunday School, Brotherhood and Young People's Work, the Board of Education, General Conference Expense Fund, Bonebrake Theological Seminary Fund, and other benevolent funds of the Church. Said treasurer shall give bond for the faithful performance of his duty, the bond to be fixed by the Board of Bishops and the salary by the General Conference.

Section XI.

ORPHANAGES AND OLD PEOPLE'S HOMES.

1. Any conference or number of conferences, with the consent of the Board of Bishops, may unite in founding an Old People's Home, Orphanage, or Hospital.

2. The conference or conferences founding and supporting any of said institutions shall elect the board of trustees.

3. Said board of trustees shall be incorporated, and shall hold all property in trust for the Church of the United Brethren in Christ.

4. The board of trustees shall adopt such plans and rules as may be necessary for the management of said institution, provided such rules are in harmony with the Discipline of the Church.

5. It shall be the duty of the Board of Bishops to present the above interests to each annual conference coöperating with said institution.

6. The Quincy United Brethren Orphanage and Home, located at Quincy, Franklin County, Pa., is recognized as

[1]For filling vacancy, see General Conference proceedings of 1901, pages 473 and 545.

sustaining a well-defined relation to the Church as a general institution.

7. One person duly appointed by the General Conference and the bishop of the East District are authorized by the General Conference to be part of the Board of Control. Christmas is recognized as the time for an annual free-will offering for the support of the institution.

8. In order to secure the best results from concentration, no similar institution may be established without the approval of the Board of Bishops, as to its proper location.

9. The Old People's Home, located at Mechanicsburg, Pa., as an institution of great need in our Zion, where our worthy, aged poor in need of a home can spend the remaining days of their earthly career, is recognized as a general institution of the Church. The General Conference shall appoint one person, who, with the bishop of the East District, shall coöperate with the Board of Control.

CHAPTER VI.

Ministry of the Church.

Section I.

LAY PREACHERS.

How Licensed.

1. Any person, male or female, desiring license as a lay preacher, must obtain from the class of which he or she is a member, by a two-thirds vote of the members present, at a meeting called and duly announced for that purpose, a recommendation in writing, signed by the leader, or preacher in charge, to the quarterly conference of the circuit, station or mission to which he or she belongs, which may license him or her after an examination on the questions for applicants for quarterly conference license to preach.

Duties of Lay Preachers.

2. Lay preachers shall make appointments wherever acceptable to the people; read portions of the Holy Scriptures, preaching and exhorting therefrom; give Bible readings; encouraging Christians to cleave with purpose of heart to the Lord, and sinners to flee the wrath to come; and this they shall do as often as practicable.

3. The license of a lay preacher is subject to renewal annually at the discretion of the quarterly conference.

Section II.

QUARTERLY CONFERENCE PREACHERS.

How Licensed.

1. Any person wishing to obtain license to preach, must obtain from the class of which he or she is a member, by a two-thirds vote of the members present at a meeting called and duly announced for that purpose, a recommendation in writing, signed by the leader or preacher, to the quarterly conference of the circuit, station, or mission to which he or she belongs; provided, however, that only they

shall receive license who have passed the Teacher Training Course, or its full equivalent, and whose educational attainments are (except in extraordinary cases) equivalent to the completion of a public school course, half way through the standard high-school grade, or to the completion of half the standard academic course necessary to entering the freshman class of a standard college, and expressed their purpose to make the ministry their life work, and can give satisfactory evidence of their call, religious experience, soundness of doctrine, and attachment to the Church and its government. The person making application shall be examined by the quarterly conference, and the following questions shall be asked by the chairman:

Examination of Applicant.

2. (1) Do you believe our Confession of Faith as set forth in our Book of Discipline?

(2) Have you now peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ?

(3) What is your motive in desiring permission to preach the gospel?

(4) Are you satisfied with our Church government?

(5) Will you submit yourself to the counsel of your brethren?

(6) What is your knowledge of depravity, of redemption, of faith, of repentance, of justification, of regeneration, and of sanctification?

(7) What is your knowledge of the ordinary branches of an English or German education?

3. It shall be the privilege of the chairman to ask any other question or questions that he may deem necessary.

4. Persons divorced, except on scriptural grounds, shall not be granted license.

5. No person who habitually uses tobacco in any form shall be granted a license to preach the gospel.

6. When a preacher from another church comes to us with a certificate of good standing in the church in which he has held membership, and gives satisfaction to the quarterly conference concerning his agreement on the doctrines, discipline, government, and usages of our Church, the quarterly conference may receive him, and give him the same standing which he held in the church from which he came, until the succeeding annual conference.

Course of Study.

7. A quarterly-conference preacher is required to pursue the course of study prescribed in our Book of Discipline, and to be examined annually by the presiding elder and preacher in charge at the fourth quarterly meeting.

[For exception to this article, see paragraph 7; on page 51.]

Renewal of License.

8. The license of a quarterly-conference preacher is subject to renewal annually, at the discretion of the quarterly conference, provided, however, that when the course of study required has been taken, he shall be excused from further examination, and shall hold his license subject to the discretion of the quarterly conference.

Recommendation to Annual Conference.

9. After a quarterly-conference preacher has stood in that relation one or more conference years, the quarterly conference may recommend him to the annual conference, and if not received he shall sustain his former relation. The recommendation shall be signed by the secretary of the quarterly conference or the presiding elder.

SECTION III.

ANNUAL-CONFERENCE PREACHERS.

How Received.

1. Any person proposed as a preacher shall be examined by the annual conference, or a select committee thereof; and the following questions shall be asked him:

Preacher's Examination.

2. (1) Have you known God in Christ Jesus to be a sin-pardoning God?

(2) Have you now peace with God, and is the love of God shed abroad in your heart by the Holy Spirit?

(3) Do you believe the Bible to be the word of God, and that therein is contained the only true way to our salvation?

(4) What foundation have you for such belief?

(5) Do you follow after holiness?

(6) What is your motive for desiring permission to preach the gospel?

(7) Do you believe that man, apart from the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, is fallen from original righteousness, and is not only entirely destitute of holiness, but is inclined to evil, and only evil, and that continually; and that except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of heaven?

(8) What is your knowledge of redemption, of faith, of repentance, justification, regeneration, and sanctification?

(9) Does your own salvation, and the salvation of your fellow mortals, lie nearer to your heart than all other things in the world?

(10) Will you subject yourself to the counsel of your brethren in the Lord?

(11) Are you satisfied with our Church government?

(12) Are you willing, as much as is in your power, to assist in upholding our itinerant plan?

Educational Requirements.

3. (1) Educational attainments equivalent to the completion of a standard academy or a standard high-school course are required for admission to the annual conference. (2) The foregoing, in addition to the completion of the quarterly and annual conference courses of study, are required for ordination. (3) The ideal preparation for efficient work in the ministry is a full college course, followed by a theological course, to which standard we earnestly urge our young ministers to aspire.

Qualifications of Applicants.

4. None can be admitted without having a recommendation from the quarterly conference, and then only to be received on probation; neither, except in extraordinary cases, can any one be admitted who has not completed a public-school course through the high-school grade, or the standard preparatory course in college, or its fair equivalent; such cases to be decided by a two-thirds vote of the annual conference. If the conference should, on examination, find that the candidate's abilities are insufficient to preach the gospel, it may refer him back to the quarterly conference for further instruction.

5. Persons divorced, except on scriptural grounds, shall not be granted license to preach.

6. No person shall be granted license to preach the gospel who uses tobacco in any form. The license of any

preacher who uses tobacco, may, upon proper evidence, be revoked by the annual conference.

Exemption from Examination.

7. Any person pursuing the quarterly- or annual-conference course of study who presents a certificate to the effect that he has completed branches or books contained in the courses in the Discipline at any of our schools, or at schools whose standard of excellence is acceptable to the parties conducting the examination on behalf of the Church, said certificates shall preclude the necessity for further examination in the branches or books which have been completed as evidenced by said certificates.

Sacraments and Unordained Preachers.

8. Unordained annual conference preachers who are engaged in the active work of the ministry and who are regularly and industriously pursuing their course of study, may be permitted by their annual conference to administer the sacraments of the Church.

An Expelled Preacher.

9. When a preacher or elder has been expelled, or withdraws from an annual conference, he shall not be received into another conference without the consent of the conference with which he was formerly connected.

Preacher's Transfer.

10. A preacher or elder who has labored in the bounds of an annual conference other than the one to which he belongs, for two years, shall be required to obtain a transfer from the conference to which he belongs and to unite with the conference in whose bounds he labors, or to return to his own conference for work; provided, that presidents and professors of schools and colleges, students in our institutions of learning, and others engaged in general church work, shall be exempt from this requirement.

11. A preacher removing from one conference to another shall, when he applies to the latter for admission, produce a transfer from the former, signed by the presiding officer and secretary.

Limit of Transfer.

12. A preacher or elder who receives a transfer is required to present said transfer to another conference, or to

return it to the conference by which it was issued, within two years after its date. Otherwise the transfer shall be null and void, and it shall be published that said preacher is not longer connected with our Church as a minister.

Accountability of Transferred Preachers.

13. A preacher or elder receiving a transfer shall be a member of the quarterly conference in whose bounds he may reside, and shall also be accountable for his moral and official conduct to the annual conference granting said transfer, until his transfer be received by the conference to which he has been transferred.

Bible Cause.

14. It shall be the duty of every pastor to take an offering each year on his charge for the Bible cause, and report same to his annual conference.

Section IV.

RECEPTION OF PREACHERS FROM OTHER CHURCHES.

When a preacher from another church comes to us with a certificate of good standing in the church in which he has held membership, or with a transfer from a conference, presbytery, or synod, and gives satisfaction to the annual conference concerning his agreement on the doctrines, discipline, government, and usages of our Church, the conference may receive him. If he be an ordained elder, he must pass the examination required of candidates for elder's orders, but he may be exempt from the laying on of hands.

Section V.

CLASSIFICATION OF THE MINISTRY.

Classes.

1. The ministry of the Church shall be classified after the following order: First, as elders and licentiates; second, as itinerants (active, superannuated, or supernumerary) and local preachers.

Elders.

2. Elders are ministers who have been ordained in accordance with the provisions of Section VI. of this chapter.

Licentiates.

3. Licentiates are ministers who have received annual-conference license, but have not yet been ordained.

Itinerants.

4. To this class shall belong all annual-conference ministers who have been regularly received into the itinerancy. They may be active, superannuated, or supernumerary.

(1) *Active Itinerants* are such itinerants as have received work from the conference or Church.

(2) *Superannuated Itinerants* are such itinerants as are from age or physical infirmities unable to pursue the regular work of the ministry.

(3) *Supernumerary Itinerants* are such as have been admitted to the itinerancy and are willing to work, but for whom the conference and the Church, for the time being, are not able to find work, or who, by their own request, have been voted to such relation.

Local Preachers.

5. To this class shall belong such annual-conference preachers as are not admitted to the itinerancy.

Class—How Determined.

6. The annual conference shall determine to which of the foregoing classes each minister shall belong. Should an itinerant leave in an irregular way the work assigned him, he shall forfeit his standing as an itinerant.

Evangelists.

7. No preacher shall be recognized as an evangelist unless he is so authorized by vote of the annual conference to which he belongs or by the General Board of Home Missions. He shall report his work annually to the conference or Board of Home Missions.

Section VI.

ELDERS.

Licentiate's Probation.

1. After a probation of four years, a licentiate preacher may be presented to the annual conference for elder's or-

ders; whereupon the bishop shall propose to the conference the following questions:

Questions Regarding a Candidate.

2. (1) Is he blameless touching the marriage state?

(2) Is his deportment in the social circle marked with watchful sobriety?

(3) Is he hospitable toward the afflicted and needy?

(4) Is he faithful in the public ministration of God's word, and diligent in reading and study?

(5) Is his household subject to rules of piety?

3. Should the above questions be answered in the affirmative, a committee of three or five elders shall be appointed, before whom the candidate shall appear and make answer to the following questions:

Committee Examination.

4. (1) Upon what foundation do you believe the Bible to be the word of God?

(2) How do you prove the fall of man by transgression?

(3) How do you prove the redemption of man by Jesus Christ?

(4) Do you believe in the deity of Jesus Christ?

(5) What foundation have you for such a belief?

(6) Do you believe in the Holy Ghost as presented in our Confession of Faith?

(7) Upon what evidence do you believe this?

(8) Do you believe in future everlasting punishment?

Duties of the Committee.

5. It shall be the right of the committee to propose any question touching the answers given, if said answers should be unsatisfactory. It shall also be their duty to make out, sign, and deliver to the conference a report of each case which may have been before them.

Election to Elders' Orders.

6. If the committee and conference find the candidate worthy, by a majority of the votes of the elders of conference he may be elected to ordination.

Duties of an Elder.

7. It is the duty of an elder to preach the gospel, to administer the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's supper,

to solemnize marriages, to perform all parts of divine service, to be an example to others by himself following the Savior's example; and in a very special manner it shall be the duty of an elder to cherish and encourage young ministers, and always to be looking for those whom God has called to preach, and advise them to take up the cross and begin work without delay, or, in case it is required, to enter upon the fullest preparation, that the gathering of the gospel harvest may be faithfully performed.

Section VII.

PRESIDING ELDERS.

Election of Presiding Elders.

1. Presiding elders shall be elected by the annual conferences by ballot. A majority of the whole number of votes shall be necessary to a choice.

Support of Presiding Elders.

2. It shall be the duty of the several annual conferences to make such regulations for the support of presiding elders as they in their wisdom may think best calculated to accomplish the desired end.

Stationing Presiding Elders.

3. Presiding elders shall be stationed by the bishop and two elders or preachers elected by ballot from each presiding-elder district.

Duties of Presiding Elders.

4. The duties of a presiding elder are: To superintend the district appointed to him, to preach as often as is practicable, to give special attention to evangelistic work, home missions, church erection, and education. It shall also be his duty to make strict inquiry whether each pastor has received the amount of salary due him, and, in case of a deficiency, to make an earnest effort to secure the amount due, and to have all the assessments paid in full on his district.

5. He shall appoint the quarterly conferences and camp-meetings, and attend them when practicable. He shall hold quarterly conferences and administer the ordinances of God's house or arrange for them. He shall inquire whether preachers do their duty, and exhort them to

maintain discipline and order, love and reverence, in the Church. He shall look after the organization of Young People's societies on his district, and make inquiry in the quarterly conferences as to the work of the societies, and keep a record of the number of members and the names of corresponding secretaries and their addresses, and report them to the corresponding secretary of the Branch Union. He may call extra sessions of the quarterly conference.

6. The presiding elder shall earnestly endeavor to arouse the membership of the Church to a more uniform performance of their duties on a minimum salary of six hundred dollars and parsonage on each charge, and shall suggest the most practicable means for securing the same.

7. At the second quarterly conference of each year, the presiding elders shall examine the boards of trustees of church-houses and parsonages as to their having procured articles of incorporation according to the laws of the State and the regulations of the Church, and shall give such instructions as may be necessary.

8. Each presiding elder shall make a report, in writing, of his district, annually, to the annual conference.

Vacancies.

9. Should any district, through death, resignation, or otherwise, be without a presiding elder, information shall be immediately given to the bishop, who shall appoint an elder to preside in said district until the ensuing annual conference.

Power to Exchange Pastors.

10. Should it become desirable to exchange the pastors of two charges on his district, the presiding elder may, in conjunction with two elders, preachers, lay preachers, or leaders (one from each charge), change the said pastors.

Power to Dismiss Pastors.

11. The presiding elder may, in conjunction with the quarterly conference, dismiss a pastor from his charge for inefficiency or neglect of duty.

12. It shall be his duty to fill any vacancy in the pastorates on his district caused by death, resignation, or otherwise.

Section VIII.

BISHOPS.

Election of Bishops.

1. The General Conference shall elect bishops for the term of four years, who may, at the option of the Conference, be reëlected.

Holding Conferences.

2. The bishops shall arrange the time of holding the several conferences, and attend and preside over them as the General Conference shall direct.

Salaries of Bishops.

3. The General Conference shall fix the salaries of the bishops. Apportionments to meet these salaries shall be made to the Church by the bishops. Apportionments thus made to the annual conferences and mission districts shall be apportioned to the various fields of labor according to the ability of each.

Residences of Bishops.

4. Each bishop shall reside within the bounds of the district to which he shall be assigned. The bishops shall be assigned to their respective districts by a committee of three from each district, to be elected by the delegates from that district assembled for that purpose.

Duties of Bishops.

PRESIDING AT CONFERENCES.

5. It is the duty of bishops to preside over the annual and General conferences, and strictly examine into the moral and official character of the members of the annual conferences in the bounds of their districts, and see that all the laws of the Church are faithfully executed. The bishops may interchange with each other in the holding of conferences when they deem it necessary or expedient to do so.

SUPERINTENDENTS' ASSOCIATION.

6. The bishop of each district may call together, annually, the presiding elders of his district, at some convenient place, for the purpose of consultation, and planning for the advancement of the interests of the Church.

The bishop shall be chairman *ex officio* of this body.

Upon assembling, the bishop shall direct the organization of the association, which shall consist of a vice-president, a secretary, a treasurer, and such other officers as may be necessary.

Each annual conference representation within the district shall be entitled to one vote upon all matters coming before the association.

The business of the Superintendents' Association shall be to consider the material and spiritual advancement of the Church, and devise methods and provide means for promoting the same.

Special attention shall be given to the planting of missions in growing towns and cities where our Church is not already represented.

Each annual conference shall provide for the traveling expenses and entertainment of its delegate or delegates to the association.

ORDINATION OF PREACHERS.

7. It shall be the duty of the bishops to perform the rite of ordination at the annual conferences, and at such other times and places as circumstances may require, but only upon such persons as have passed the usual examination required of candidates for ordination, by a committee of three elders chosen for that purpose by one of the bishops.

ANNUAL MEETINGS.

8. The bishops shall hold annual meetings, in which they shall determine the time of holding the annual conferences; decide questions of discipline; adopt measures to secure uniformity in their administration; and when circumstances demand it, appoint fast and thanksgiving seasons, and give counsel upon the general interests of the Church.

SPECIAL SESSIONS.

9. The bishop of any district shall reconvene any annual conference, when requested to do so by the majority of said conference.

ORGANIZING MISSION CONFERENCES.

10. In conjunction with either of the boards of missions, (Home or Foreign) a bishop shall have power to organize mission conferences.

11. The bishops shall confer with the presiding elders and pastors, to secure definite aims and wise methods for the development of the interests of home missions, foreign missions, and church erection, and shall devote as much of their time as practicable to visiting our mission stations and exploring new fields.

GENERAL FINANCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS.

12. The bishops shall devote attention to the general financial and educational interests of the Church.

REPORTS.

13. The bishops shall publish annually, in the columns of the *Religious Telescope* and *Fröliche Botschafter*, reports of their respective districts, and also the amount of salary received from the several annual conferences in their charge.

VACANCY IN A DISTRICT.

14. In case of a vacancy in the office of bishop in any district, it shall be the duty of the remaining bishops to divide the work of said district among themselves, or hold an election by letter ballot; all members of the preceding General Conference, who are members of the Church, voting. The Publishing Agent shall provide and send out the blank ballots and return envelopes under the direction of the Board of Bishops. The Board of Bishops shall appoint a board of three tellers from the membership of our Church in the vicinity of Dayton, Ohio. The ballots shall be turned over to them by the Publishing Agent, as directed by the bishops. The bishops shall set a date when the ballots must be in, and also when and where the ballots shall be counted by the tellers, these two dates to be printed on the blank ballots sent out to the delegates. The tellers shall certify the entire vote to the bishops, and they shall announce the election.

ANNUAL ADDRESS AND SERMON.

15. It shall be the duty of the bishops to deliver a suitable address and sermon to each annual conference.

FOREIGN FIELD.

16. The foreign fields shall be under the supervision of the Board of Bishops, the Board of Foreign Missions, and the Woman's Missionary Association conjointly.

STATIONING OF PREACHERS.

17. For stationing presiding elders, see "Stationing Presiding Elders," page 55. For stationing pastors, see "Stationing Committee," page 65.

COUNCIL MEETINGS.

18. The secretary or manager of each department of Church work, to wit: Publishing House, Home Missions, Foreign Missions, Woman's Missionary Association, Sunday School, Brotherhood, and Young People's Work, Church Erection, Theological Seminary, and Education, shall meet annually with the Board of Bishops, to consult, to harmonize, and to plan the work of the Church.

SECTION IX.

TRIAL OF PREACHERS.

Quarterly-Conference Preachers.

1. When a quarterly conference preacher, or lay preacher, is accused of any scriptural offense, the pastor of the charge where said preacher holds his or her church membership, shall appoint one or more competent persons as a committee, to inquire into the nature of the complaints, and if there be grounds for charges, and the accused fails to make restitution and give proper expressions of repentance, the committee shall prefer charges against the accused; if not, the committee shall report to the next quarterly conference of which the accused is a member, that there is no cause for further action. If charges are preferred, the quarterly conference shall appoint a prosecutor, whose duty it shall be to notify the accused to choose a committeeman, the prosecutor choosing a committeeman, in behalf of the Church, and these two a third, all of whom shall be members of the Church, before which committee the case shall be tried. The prosecutor shall notify the pastor of the charge when said committee has been properly formed, and it shall be the duty of the pastor to appoint the time and place of trial; giving not less than ten nor more than twenty days' notice; and he shall also act as chairman in the case. If a majority of the committee be satisfied that the accusation is sustained, the

chairman shall require the accused to hold his or her peace until the quarterly conference, where the accused shall be accountable, and it shall be the duty of the committee to transmit in written form the proceedings and findings of said trial to the quarterly conference, and if the findings are sustained, the accused shall be suspended, expelled, or otherwise dealt with, as the quarterly conference may determine. But should the accused, after being duly notified, refuse, or neglect, or fail to choose a committeeman; the quarterly conference shall appoint a committee of three persons, who shall hear the case and decide.

Annual Conference Preachers.

2. When a preacher or elder is accused of immorality, tresspass, imprudent conduct, or disobedience to the order and discipline of the Church, the presiding elder of the district, in the bounds of which the accused shall reside or hold membership, shall appoint a preacher, who shall take with him another preacher or leader, and examine into the charge, following the Apostle's instruction (I. Tim. 5 : 19) : "Against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses." If it should appear that said reports are well founded, the examiners shall prefer charges against the accused; if not, he shall report to the next quarterly conference, of which the accused is a member, that he found no cause for action. If charges are preferred, the quarterly conference shall appoint a prosecutor, whose duty it shall be to notify the accused in writing, setting forth all the charges preferred against him. He shall also notify him to choose an elder as his committeeman, the prosecutor choosing an elder as committeeman in behalf of the Church, and these two a third elder or preacher, before which committee the case shall be tried. The prosecutor shall also notify the presiding elder of the district, and it shall be the duty of the presiding elder to appoint the time and place of trial, giving not less than twenty nor more than thirty days' notice to the parties concerned, and he shall also act as chairman in the case. Should a majority of the committee be satisfied that the accusation is sustained, and he is found guilty of a serious offense, they shall require him to hold his peace until the annual conference, where he shall be accountable, and it shall be the duty of the committee to transmit in writing, the entire proceedings of said trial, to the annual conference, where the accused shall have a hearing before the conference, or a committee thereof; and if the

findings are sustained, he shall be suspended, expelled, or otherwise dealt with, as the conference may determine.

But should the accused, after having been duly notified, refuse or neglect to comply in choosing his committeeman and notifying the prosecutor within fifteen days, the presiding elder shall suspend him until the annual conference, where, if he shall refuse to appear, he shall be dealt with according to the judgment of the conference; provided, however, if he be an elder, elders only shall vote in the case; and provided further, that if the committeemen choosen by the prosecutor and accused fail to agree as to the third member of the committee, then the quarterly conference shall appoint said committeeman. If the accused or prosecutor be a presiding elder or bishop, the presiding elder or bishop, as the case may be, next adjoining shall act as chairman in the trial; provided, that in conferences having only one presiding elder the bishop shall appoint a chairman to act in the case.

3. The foregoing relates only to annual conference members.

Trial of Bishops and Presiding Elders.

4. When a presiding elder shall be accused of any misdemeanor, immoral conduct, or disobedience to the order and discipline of the Church, the bishop of the district, in the bounds of which the accused shall reside or hold membership, shall appoint a committee of three elders, who shall examine into the complaints, and should the accused be a bishop, then the Board of Bishops shall appoint a like committee. If it shall appear that said complaints are well founded, the committee shall prefer charges against the accused; if not, the committee shall report to his quarterly conference that they found no grounds of action. If charges are preferred his quarterly conference shall appoint a prosecutor, whose duty it shall be to notify the accused, in writing, setting forth all the charges preferred against him. He shall also notify him to choose a committeeman, the prosecutor choosing a committeeman in behalf of the church, and these two a third, all of whom shall be elders, before whom the case shall be tried. The prosecutor shall also notify the bishop or Board of Bishops, and it shall be the duty of the bishop or Board of Bishops to appoint the time and place of trial, giving not less than twenty nor more than forty

days' notice. The bishop, or some one appointed by the Board of Bishops, shall act as chairman in the case. Should a majority of the committee be satisfied that the accusation is sustained, they shall require him to hold his peace until the sitting of his conference, where he shall be accountable, and it shall be the duty of the committee to transmit, in writing, to said annual conference, the entire proceedings of said trial, where the accused shall have a hearing before the conference or a committee thereof, and if the findings are sustained, he shall be suspended, expelled, or otherwise dealt with, as the conference may determine.

Section X.

MARRIAGE—WHO MAY SOLEMNIZE.

1. All ordained ministers.

2. All annual-conference ministers, where the law of the State makes it the privilege of every regularly licensed minister to solemnize marriage, are authorized to solemnize marriage; but none having quarterly conference license only are permitted to do so.

Section XI.

PREACHERS' DUTIES IN GENERAL.

1. The duties of preachers are, to preach Christ crucified; to organize churches, and report the same to annual conferences; converse with the members on their spiritual condition; administer relief; strengthen and direct those that are afflicted or labor under temptations; animate the indolent; endeavor as much as possible to edify and instruct all in faith, in the Christian virtues, and in the knowledge of Jesus Christ; visit the sick; and strive to enforce and confirm the doctrine they deliver by a well-ordered and exemplary life.

2. The pastor of a member moving from one charge to another is required immediately to send the transfer of said member to the pastor of the charge of the United Brethren Church to which he has removed, unless the member moving beforehand requests that his membership remain with his home church.

Directions to Preachers.

3. Let preachers heed the following directions:

(1) Be diligent. Never trifle away your time. Always be serious. Let your motto be, "HOLINESS UNTO

THE LORD." Avoid all vain conversation, conduct yourself prudently, and demean yourself in all respects as a true Christian. Be at all times averse to crediting evil reports. Believe evil of no one without good evidence. Put the best construction on everything.

(2) Speak evil of no one. Whatever may be your thoughts, keep them within your own breast until you can tell the person concerned what you think wrong in his conduct.

(3) Let your business be to save as many souls as possible. To this employment give yourself up wholly. Visit those who need it, and act in all things, not according to your own will, but as sons in the gospel: for as such it becomes your duty to employ your time in the manner prescribed, in preaching, and in visiting from house to house, in instruction and prayer, and in meditating on the Word of God. With these things be occupied until our Lord shall come.

Preachers Not to Trespass.

4. No preacher shall arbitrarily form a circuit, mission, or station within the limits of a circuit or presiding-elder district, or shall receive compensation for labor performed, without the consent of the preacher in charge; nor shall any minister preaching in a different language accept a call from any regularly-organized class or congregation which does not belong to his conference, without the consent of the annual conference to which the charge making the request may belong. Any preacher violating the provisions of this section shall be amenable to his quarterly or annual conference.

CHAPTER VII.

Itinerancy.

Section I.

itinerants.

How Constituted.

1. All who offer themselves without reserve, after having labored two years under the direction of the stationing committee or presiding elder, and have been received by a vote of two-thirds of the members of conference, shall be recognized as itinerants.

Withdrawing from the Itinerancy.

2. If any one who is thus received shall withdraw from active work without giving satisfaction to the conference of which he is a member, he shall not be entitled to any support from the funds belonging to said conference. And, furthermore, he shall not reënter the itinerancy without the consent of at least two-thirds of the conference. Yet supernumerary and superannuated relations shall be duly recognized as proper disciplinary relations, and may be secured to any brother having just claims thereto, by a vote of the conference.

Pastor's Resignation.

3. Should a pastor after duly entering upon the work assigned him desire to leave the same for any reason, he shall inform the presiding elder of his intentions, in writing, at least thirty days before his resignation is to take effect, and satisfy him that all his obligations to the charge have been satisfactorily adjusted; and should said minister leave or neglect his charge, except it be through sickness or other unavoidable circumstances, he shall be accountable to the next annual conference.

Stationing Committee.

4. The bishop and presiding elders of the past and present years shall constitute a stationing committee, whose duty it shall be to supply all the circuits, stations, and missions,

as far as practicable, from the list of itinerants; provided, however, that where there is but one presiding elder on the committee, the conference may elect to the same one or more elders from the elders not asking for work from said committee.

5. The stationing committee shall have at least two meetings before its work is completed.

Appeal from Stationing Committee's Report.

6. If any of the preachers thus stationed, or any who may not receive an appointment are dissatisfied, they shall have a right to appeal to the annual conference. If two-thirds grant the appeal, the decisions shall be final. In case of an appeal from the decision of the stationing committee, no preacher stationed by said committee shall be changed, without his consent, to accommodate the preacher making such appeal. In no case shall preachers be permitted to exchange charges, except in the manner provided for in paragraph 10 of Section VII., of Chapter VI., page 56.

Report of Stationing Committee.

7. The report of the stationing committee shall be read at least six hours before the adjournment of conference.

Employment of Other Preachers.

8. Should there not be enough itinerants to supply all the circuits, stations, and missions, the remaining charges shall be supplied by the stationing committee or presiding elders.

Pastoral Charges.

9. A circuit or station shall not consist of any specific number of members or appointments; but when the annual conference judges it able to support a minister, it may be so recognized.

10. The pastor shall have full control of his pulpit, and no board of trustees shall permit any one to preach therein without his consent.

Section II.

DUTIES OF ITINERANTS.

1. It is the duty of an itinerant preacher to take the charge assigned him, and to move to it if practicable.

2. He shall visit regularly the appointments on his charge, preach to the people, and hold class-meetings whenever practicable, and whenever possible organize and maintain Young People's Christian societies.

Revision of Church Records.

3. He, in connection with the official board, shall at least one month before annual conference revise the church records. The duties of the committee on revision shall be essentially clerical, and the name of no member shall be erased from the records unless the disciplinary steps shall have been taken. (See chapter IV, Section II., paragraph 18, page 26; Chapter IV., Section III., page 26; and Chapter V., Section I., paragraph 3, page 32.)

Annual Reorganization.

4. He, in connection with the official board,—shall, at the time when the records are revised, appoint a steward or stewards, subject to the approval of the class. He shall hold a meeting of the class and see that a class-leader is elected.

Presiding at Trials.

5. He shall sit as president at the trial of members and see that a correct record of the same is kept.

Reports.

6. He shall render a strict account (as indicated in Form 18, page 197) of his work at each quarterly conference, where he is to be held accountable for neglect of duty.

Circulation of Literature.

7. It shall be his duty to use every laudable effort to circulate our books and Church periodicals, and to use due diligence to advance the interests of the Church Printing Establishment.

8. It shall be his duty to keep a list of the names of all the subscribers to our Church periodicals, and the time of subscribing, at the different appointments on his charge, and hand it over to his successor at the annual conference, with the list of the appointments. He shall also report the number of subscribers to our periodicals on his charge at each quarterly conference, and be examined by the presiding elder and quarterly conference as to whether he per-

forms his duty in circulating the periodicals of the Church among the people.

Dismissal of Appointments.

9. A preacher is not permitted to dismiss any appointment from his circuit or mission without the consent of the quarterly conference.

Records.

10. He shall procure a suitable book for a church record, in which he shall register all the appointments and classes on his circuit, station, or mission, in regular order, with the name of each member properly recorded in connection with his own class. He shall also make a record of all baptisms, marriages, deaths, and proceedings of church trials, with the names of all the parties in each case. He shall report this record with the proceedings therein to the last quarterly conference of each year for approval or improvement. This book shall be the property of the quarterly conference, and shall be in addition to the regular class-books and circuit-books.

General Collections.

11. It shall be the duty of each preacher in charge of a field of labor to collect the annual amounts apportioned to his charge for the support of the bishops and presiding elders, and also all other conference assessments. And should he fail to collect in full and not be able to give a satisfactory reason for such a failure, he shall be accountable to the annual conference.

Missionary Contributions.

12. He shall preach missionary sermons, and by a careful study of conditions use such plans as shall educate his people in the privilege of giving, and secure the largest possible contributions. He shall be held to strict account for the faithful performance of his duties. The publication of the names of the donors shall be left to the option of each annual conference.

Pastoral Visiting.

13. It shall be the duty of the preacher in charge of a station or circuit to give as much of his time as possible to visiting the families under his charge, and to pay strict

attention to the young members under his care. This private work of visiting from house to house and exhorting the people is founded on these solemn words of the apostle: "I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you publicly, and from house to house" (Acts 20:20).

Home Training of Children.

14. Because of the powerful and far-reaching influence of home life upon the young, it shall be the duty of each pastor to direct the attention of his people to the vital importance of family government and Christian nurture. He shall do this publicly and privately by directing attention to books and periodicals giving helpful instruction upon this subject, and also by presenting in his public ministrations the teaching of God's Word respecting the duty of parents to train up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Evangelistic Work.

15. It shall be the duty of all preachers, whether local or itinerant, to make every laudable effort to enlarge the borders of our Zion, to spread scriptural holiness, and to report to their respective annual conferences the number of new appointments established.

Section III.

PREACHERS' SALARIES.

1. The salary of a pastor shall be such amount as may be agreed upon between him and the quarterly conference of the field of labor to which he is sent; and said agreement shall be a valid contract between the parties thereto. When a charge owns a parsonage, or rents a house for the pastor to live in, the charge shall have credit for the same by the pastor reporting as so much salary the amount the parsonage would rent for or the amount paid for the rented house.

2. A missionary employed by the Board of Missions shall receive such salary as in the judgment of the Board may be proper.

Parsonage and Moving of Preacher.

3. It shall be the duty of a circuit or station, when a preacher is sent to it by an annual conference, to provide a house and move the preacher at its own expense.

Section IV.

MINISTERIAL RELIEF BUREAU.

Object.

1. The object of this bureau shall be to provide a fund for the relief of superannuated ministers in the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, and their widows.

Source of Income.

2. Five cents per member shall be assessed annually by each annual conference.

3. The Publishing House shall pay to the treasurer of the bureau at least $5,000 annually.

4. Any other sums obtained by special offerings, gifts, and bequests.

Method of Relief.

5. Any minister given a superannuated relation by his annual conference, because of age or other disability, making such relationship advisable, shall receive such amounts per annum as the funds in hand will justify the Board of Directors to distribute from year to year.

6. Widows of deceased ministers of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, while they remain loyal to the Church aforesaid, having children under the age of sixteen, shall receive a like pension; otherwise they shall receive one-half the amount paid to a superannuated minister, as the funds in hand will justify from year to year.

Management.

7. The Board of Directors of this bureau shall consist of the secretaries of the General Boards of the Church and the Treasurer of the General Church.

8. The Board of Directors shall meet at least semi-annually for the consideration of such claims as shall come before them, and to make equitable distribution of funds in hand.

9. The treasurer shall hold and disburse the funds of this bureau according to the rules and order of the Board of Directors.

10. Each annual conference, having a board or committee to recommend claimants to any local aid fund already provided or who shall hereinafter be provided for such purpose, shall secure and forward to the treasurer of this bureau the necessary data concerning each claimant in said conference. Any conference not having such committee shall provide one whose duty it shall be to make and forward such report at or near the time of the meeting of their annual conference.

Rights of Annual Conferences.

11. Annual conferences now having preachers' aid societies, or ministerial relief provisions, or who shall hereafter provide for such relief funds for their own claimants, shall be permitted to continue such relief work, as well as share in the benefits of the general fund herein provided, providing they comply with the requirements herein set forth, this general fund becoming supplementary to their local provisions, and thus encouraging annual conferences in continuing satisfactory provisions already inaugurated, as well as to institute such provisions in any or all annual conferences

CHAPTER VIII.

Deaconesses.

Section I.

deaconesses—in local churches.

1. When any sister of suitable age, health, ability, culture, and piety, wishes to become a deaconess, she shall receive a recommendation to the quarterly conference from the class where she holds her membership. If, after examination by the presiding elder, or a committee appointed by him, she is approved by the quarterly conference, she shall receive license to perform the duties of a deaconess in the local church, said license subject to annual renewal.

2. Her duties shall be to teach in the Sunday school, the kindergarten, the Young People's Christian Endeavor Union, and in the houses of the people such religious and otherwise useful knowledge as may be needed; to visit from house to house, reading, singing, teaching, exhorting, or comforting the people, as the case may require; to nurse, or otherwise minister to the sick and needy; to solicit funds or supplies, and distribute the same; all under the direction of the pastor, to whom she shall report as often as he may desire.

3. A uniform costume shall be selected by a committee appointed by the bishops, to distinguish and protect her.

4. The deaconess work is a high and holy calling for sacrificial service. Each local church must provide for any necessary expense attending this work, always, however, encouraging those who enter upon this service to do so for the love of Christ and humanity.

5. No one shall be required to make a perpetual vow in this work, but any one may retire from this office at pleasure, after giving the pastor the proper notice.

6. The deaconess shall be a member of the quarterly conference where she serves, and shall be responsible to it for her moral and official character.

7. If the deaconess is deficient in any of the common-school studies, she must pass examination in these, along with the prescribed course of study. The presiding elder and

pastor shall conduct the examination in writing annually, or on part of the course quarterly, as the candidate may desire.

8. On the completion of the course of study, and two years' practical work under the direction of a pastor, or an equivalent course in an approved training school, or literary school providing such courses, the deaconess shall be consecrated to this service by a bishop or presiding elder, and receive a permanent license. (See Formula for Consecration of Deaconess.)

NOTE.—The deaconess desirous to become a nurse should take the course of training for that purpose in a school connected with a good hospital.

SECTION II.

DEACONESS' HOMES.

The Board of Bishops shall constitute a board of management of deaconess' homes, and when a majority of the pastors of our Church in a city or conference wish to establish such a home, they must first submit their plans to the Board of Bishops at one of their annual meetings, and if the matter is approved by the board it shall prepare rules and regulations by which such deaconess' homes shall be founded and managed.

SECTION III.

COURSES OF STUDY.

Books to be Studied. First Year.

Synthetic Bible Studies—Gray—Pentateuch and Historical Books.

With Christ in the School of Prayer—Murray.

Life of Christ—Stalker.

United Brethren Handbook—Shuey.

United Brethren Discipline.

History and Methods of Deaconess Work—Bishop J. S. Mills.

Books to be Read—

History of the United Brethren Church—Berger, Part 1.

How to Win Men to Christ—Torry.

Seven Laws of Teaching—Gregory.

Commit to Memory—

Psalms 2, 23, and 34.

Second Year.

Synthetic Bible Studies, New Testament—Gray.
Outline Bible Studies—Dunning.
Revised Normal Lessons—Hurlbut.
Quiet Talks on Power—Gordon.
Theological Compend—Steel's Binney.
Life of St. Paul—Stalker.
Study of Child Life—Mary Washburn.

Books to be Read—

The Tongue of Fire—Arthur.
United Brethren Church History, Parts 2, 3, and 4—Berger.
Bible Geography—Hurlbut.
Manual of Nursing—Weeks.

Commit to Memory—

The Beatitudes, First Corinthians, Thirteenth Chapter.

GERMAN COURSE OF STUDY.

**Buecher fuer Gemeinde-Diakonissen Studien-Kursus.*

(Erstes Jahr.)

Die deusche Bibel. (a) Altes Testament, I Mose—2-ten Chronika. (b) Neues Testament, Die Evangelien.
Life of Christ—Stalker.
Geschichte der weiblichen Diakonie—Golder.
Manual of Bible Study—Blakie.
Deaconesses—Wheeler.
In der Schule des Gebets—Murray.

Buecher Angeraten zu Lesen.

Des Christen Geheimniss eines verborgenen Lebens—H. W. Smith.
Life of Christ—Edersheim.
How to Bring Men to Christ—Torrey.

(Zweites Jahr.)

Die deutsche Bibel. (a) Altes Testament, Esra—Malaachi. (b) Neues Testament, Apostelgeschichte bis Offb. Johannes.
Binney's Compend.
Heilige Geschichte—Sulzberger.
Calwer Kirchengeschichte.
Life of St. Paul—Stalker.

Social Law of Service—Ely.
Die Krankenpflege—Duembling.

**Buecher Angeraten zu Lesen.*

Manual of Nursing—Weeks.
Tongue of Fire—Arthur.
Vereinigte Brueder Kirchengeschichte—Berger.
Groesserer Katechismus—Nast.

CHAPTER IX.

Courses of Study.

Section I.

Quarterly Conference Preachers.

It shall be the duty of each person receiving a quarterly conference license to preach to pursue the following course of study:

First Year.

Books to be Studied—

Bible—Exodus and Matthew.
United Brethren Handbook—Shuey.
English Grammar—Maxwell.
Leading Facts of American History—Montgomery.
Study of the Four Gospels—Hurlbut.
United Brethren Discipline.
Hints to Lay Preachers—Myer.
Quiet Talks on Prayer—Gordon.

Books to be Read—

Life of Otterbein—Drury.
Our Heroes—Weekley and Fout.
Our Foreign Missionary Enterprise—Mills, Funk, and Hough.

Second Year.

Books to be Studied—

Bible, I. and II. Samuel and the Gospel of St. John.
Composition, Rhetoric—Brooks and Hubbard.
Theological Compend—Steel's Binney.
Confession of Faith—Weaver.
Bible History—Blaikie.
The Frontier—Ward Platt.
The How and Why of Missions—Brown.

Books to be Read—

Life of Edwards—Davis.
The Social Message of Our Lord—Bishop Bell.

Examinations.

2. The presiding elder, or a committee appointed by him, shall hold examinations each year in the books studied. A quarterly-conference licentiate is permitted to complete the entire course in one year; but should he fail to complete the course within four years his license shall not be subject to renewal. He is required to complete the quarterly-conference course of study before being admitted to the annual conference.

Permanent License.

3. Any one completing the above course of study and passing satisfactory examinations in the same, may receive a license certifying to that fact, and not requiring annual renewal, so long as his teaching is conformable to the doctrines of Christ, as held by our Church, and his deportment is in harmony with the requirements of our Discipline.

SECTION II.

ANNUAL-CONFERENCE PREACHERS.

Examinations.

1. A licentiate preacher is to be examined in the subjoined course of study by the annual conference to which he belongs, and shall have the privilege of being examined after the completion of one or more studies during the interim of annual conference, and the examinations on the studies shall be completed, if possible, before the sitting of the conference. The examinations shall be in writing, and graded on a scale of 100, an average of 70 being required.

2. To assist and encourage licentiates in their studies and also for the purpose of securing greater uniformity and efficiency in the examinations, the following plan shall be pursued: The faculty of Bonebrake Theological Seminary shall prepare a list of from fifty to two hundred questions on each subject of study, as the subject may require, to be placed in the hands of the examiners only. The faculty shall likewise prepare a list of helpful suggestions on each subject for the student, to be placed in the hands of the student, at the beginning of each year of study. The examiners on course of study shall select without the knowledge of the licentiate ten or more of these questions on each subject for examination, the examination always being conducted in the presence of one or more of the examiners. Each licentiate

shall also present a written sermon in connection with the examination of each year. If any licentiate is unable to appear before his examiners he shall report the cause of his absence.

First Year.

Books to be Studied—

Encyclopedic Handbook of Bible, Old Text—Green Angus.

The Foreign Missionary—Brown.

Extemporaneous Preaching—Buckley.

United Brethren Church History—Berger, Part 1.

Making of a Sermon—Pattison.

Commit to Memory—

The Ten Commandments, Psalms 1 and 2, and the Beatitudes.

Books to be Read—

With Christ in the School of Prayer—Murray.

The Pastor and Modern Missions—John R. Mott.

Life of Glossbrenner—Drury.

Second Year.

Books to be Studied—

Encyclopedic Handbook of Bible, New Testament—Green Angus.

The Preacher—Hoyt.

United Brethren Church History—Berger, Parts 2, 3, and 4.

Doctrine of the Prophets—Kirkpatrick.

Exegetical Studies, Galatians and Epistles of I. and II. Timothy and Titus.

(Use Cambridge Bible for Schools and Colleges.)

Commit to Memory—

Isaiah, fifty-third chapter; First Corinthians, thirteenth chapter, and Philemon.

Books to be Read—

Life of Weaver—Thompson.

Autobiography of Finney.

Third Year.

Books to be Studied—

The Christian Faith, Pages 1-253—Curtis.

Psychology—Hill.

The Christian Pastor—Gladden.
Elements of Higher Criticism—A. C. Zenos.
Church History—Fisher.
Exegetical Study, Amos and Philippians,
(Cambridge Bible for Schools and Colleges.)

Commit to Memory—

Acts 17 : 22-31. Psalm 34.

Books to be Read—

Problems of the Old Testament—James Orr.
Social Aspects of Christianity—Ely.
The Spiritual Life—Murray.

Fourth Year.

Books to be Studied—

The Christian Faith, Page 254 to end—Curtis.
Pedagogical Bible School—Haslitt.
Ethics—McKenzie.
New Testament Theology—Stevens.
Apologetics—Kephart.

Books to be Read—

Education in Religion and Morals—Coe.
Christianity and the Social Crisis—Rauschenbush.

Books Recommended for the Library—

Life of Müller—A. J. Pierson.
Life of A. J. Gordon—By His Son.
Antiquities of the Jews—Josephus.
History of Christian Doctrine—Sheldon.
Grounds of Theistic and Christian Belief—Fisher.
History of the Reformation—Fisher.
Historical Geography of the Holy Land—Smith.
Bible Hermaneutics—Terry.
Political Economy—Ely.
Great Missionaries of the Church—Creegan and Goodnow.

NOTE.—The General Conference recommended that Doctor Schaff's Christian Catechism be used by pastors as a text-book in children's classes.

Section III.

German Course of Study.

Quarterly-Conference Preachers.

FIRST YEAR.

Doctrines.—The presence of God, the personality of God, the Trinity, the creation, the fall of man.

Books.—The Bible, Discipline and the United Brethren Church, "Christlich-Apostolisches Glaubens-Bekenntniss," by W. Nast, "Christologische Betrachtungen," by W. Nast.

SECOND YEAR.

Doctrines.—The corruption of mankind, repentance, faith, justification, regeneration, witness of the Spirit, sanctification, possibility of falling from grace.

Books.—The Bible, Church Discipline, Hare's "Rechtfertigung durch den Glauben," D'Aubigné's "Reformations-Geschichte," "Bekämpfung des Unglaubens," by Christlieb.

Annual-Conference Preachers.

FIRST YEAR.

Doctrines.—The being and attributes of God, the Trinity, the creation, the doctrine of the angels, the doctrine of mankind, man in the image of God, the fall and the corruption.

Books.—The Bible; Church Discipline; Sulzberger's "Glaubenslehre"—First Part; Luthardt's "Apologetische Vorträge"—First Part; Dr. Joseph Beck's "Grundriss der Empirischen Psychologie"; Kurtz's Text-Book on Sacred History; Berger's History of the United Brethren Church; Nippert's "Praktische Theologie"; Grammatik, Heise's "Leitfaden Die Wortlehre"; written sermon on the Sabbath.

SECOND YEAR.

Doctrines.—The doctrines of Jesus Christ, doctrine of the personality and divinity of the Holy Ghost, doctrine of the salvation of man, conviction, repentance, faith, justification, regeneration, sanctification, possibility of falling from grace.

Books.—The Bible; Church Discipline; Sulzberger's "Glaubenslehre"—Second Part; Luthardt's "Apologetische Vorträge"—Second Part; Weber's "Einleitung in die Heiligen Schriften"; "Das Christliche Heilsleben," by F. F. Paulus; Bishop Hurst's Church History; Dittmar's "Welt-

Geschichte"—First Part; Grammatik, Heise's "Leitfaden —Die Satzlehre"; written sermon on repentance and faith.

THIRD YEAR.

Doctrines.—The sacraments—baptism and the Lord's Supper, the immortality of the soul, the resurrection of the body, the future general judgment, everlasting rewards, and everlasting punishment.

Books.—The Bible; Church Discipline; Sulzberger's "Glaubenslehre"—Third Part; the Immortality of the Soul, by F. L. Nagler; D'Aubigné's "Reformations-Geschichte"; H. Dittmar's "Welt-Geschichte"—Second Part; Heise's Grammatik—Wiederholung; W. Sommer's "Aufsatzlehre"; written sermon on baptism.

BOOKS RECOMMENDED.

Jellinghaus's "Das Völlige Heil," and C. H. Spurgeon's "Winke für Prediger," oder 23 Vorlesungen.

SECTION IV.

COMPLETING THE COURSE.

1. Each licentiate is expected to complete the prescribed course within four years, unless good reasons exist for delay.

2. Should any licentiate fail to complete the course within five years, he may be referred to his quarterly conference.

Seminary Graduates.

3. Any licentiate who has completed the full course of study in Bonebrake Theological Seminary, and has passed the examinations entitling him to a diploma from that institution, may be excused from examinations in the annual-conference course of study.

CHAPTER X.

APPEALS.

SECTION I.

FROM THE DECISION OF A CLASS.

SHOULD any member be dissatisfied with the decision of a church or class, or committee of a church or class, an appeal may be had to the next quarterly conference by giving notice thereof to the preacher in charge, or the secretary of the trial, within thirty days after said trial, together with the reasons for such appeal; and it shall be the duty of the secretary to furnish the quarterly conference with a certified copy of the proceedings of the trial and of the notice of the appeal.

SECTION II.

FROM THE DECISION OF A QUARTERLY CONFERENCE.

Any member of a quarterly conference dissatisfied with the decision thereof, may appeal to the ensuing annual conference, within thirty days after the quarterly conference, by giving notice to the secretary, in writing, of his intention to appeal, together with his reasons for so doing; and it shall be the duty of the secretary to furnish a certified copy of the proceedings, the notification, and the reasons assigned, to the annual conference.

SECTION III.

COURT OF APPEALS.

1. Any member of an annual conference, when dissatisfied with the decision thereof, shall have a right to appeal to a judicial court, which shall be constituted and governed as hereinafter stated.

2. Each annual conference, at the first session subsequent to the session of the General Conference, shall elect by ballot two members of the court, who shall hold office for four consecutive years.

3. In case of an appeal from an annual conference in form and manner hereinafter set forth, the presiding bishop of said conference shall, at such time and place as he may determine, call together seven of the members of the court

most accessible to the conference from which the appeal is taken, who, thus called together, shall constitute an appellate court to hear and determine said appeal.

4. This court shall organize by electing a chairman and some competent person as secretary.

5. The secretary shall receive and hold all papers and records pertaining to said appeal, subject to the order of the chairman; keep a true record of all proceedings of said court, and certify the decision thereof to the annual conference from which the appeal is taken, and also to the appellant.

6. Five of these members shall be necessary to constitute a quorum, and four must agree on a verdict. The court may affirm or reverse the finding and decision of the annual conference, or affirm in part and reverse in part; but it shall not reverse the same, nor remand the case for a new trial on account of errors plainly not affecting the result.

7. The decision of this court shall in all cases be final, except when the objections are taken on the ground that the proceedings were irregular in the application of law, and said objections are entered before the verdict of the court is announced. In case of appeal from the court under this clause, the appellant must give notice within thirty days to the secretary of the court, who shall send a copy of all proceedings in said case to the General Conference.

8. In case of an appeal from the decision of an annual conference, the appellant must give written notice to the secretary of said conference within thirty days after the adjournment thereof, setting forth both his intention to appeal and the reasons for so doing.

9. On receipt of a notice of appeal, the secretary of the conference shall immediately notify the presiding bishop, and, on notice from said bishop, transmit a copy of the proceedings of the conference in said case to said court of appeal.

10. The necessary expenses incurred in the assembling of said court shall be paid by the appellant, if the appeal is not sustained; if the appeal is sustained, the annual conference in which the appeal is made shall pay the expenses, and the appellant shall, in all cases, at the time the notice of appeal is given, deposit with the secretary of said annual conference security for the payment of said expenses, in an amount fixed by said secretary.

PART III.

MORAL REFORM.

CHAPTER XI.

SPECIAL RULES.

SECTION I.

TEMPERANCE.

Intoxicating Drinks.

1. THE distilling, vending, and using of intoxicating drinks as a beverage, the renting and leasing of property to be used for the manufacture or sale of such drinks, also the signing of petitions for granting license, or the entering as bondsmen for persons engaged in the traffic in intoxicating drinks, are strictly prohibited; and should any of our members be found guilty in these respects, they shall be dealt with as in the case of other immoralities; this rule, however, shall not be so construed as to prevent druggists and others from the vending and using of alcohol for medicinal or mechanical purposes.

Temperance Commission.

2. There shall be a permanent temperance commission, consisting of one minister and one layman from each bishop's district, to be appointed by the Board of Bishops. The duties of this commission shall be: To keep in close touch with similar organizations in other churches; to appoint or to authorize the appointment of delegates to local or national bodies; to collect funds for the expenses of correspondence and suitable literature.

Temperance Day.

3. The last Sabbath in November of each year shall be observed as Temperance Day.

Tobacco.

4. We believe that the use of tobacco in any form is injurious to body, mind, and moral nature, and a needless waste of money which could and should be otherwise applied;

and we kindly advise all our members to abstain from its use.

Section II.

SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

The Sabbath day being ordained of God as a day of physical rest and of spiritual improvement, and as the perpetuity of our civil and religious institutions demands its proper observance, therefore, the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, in view of the growing tendency, as seen in the open saloon, the beer-garden, the base-ball games, the social dance, excursion trains, unnecessary labor, the increasingly prevalent apathy of the masses to an attendance upon the public service of the church, and a disregard of God's command to "remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy," earnestly counsels all its members to abstain from everything that does not contribute in the highest degree to their spiritual growth; and we advise our ministers and general officers of the Church to be examples to the flock over which the Holy Ghost hath made them overseers.

Section III.

SLAVERY.

All slavery, in every sense of the word, is totally prohibited, and shall in no way be tolerated in our Church.[1]

Section IV.

SECRET COMBINATIONS.

1. A secret combination is a secret league or confederation of persons holding principles and laws at variance with the Word of God and injurious to Christian character, as evidenced in individual life, and infringing upon the natural, social, political, or religious rights of those outside its pale.

2. Any member or minister of our Church found in connection with such combination shall be dealt with as in other cases of disobedience to the order and discipline of the Church; in case of members, as found in Chapter IV., Section III., page 27, and in case of ministers, as found in Chapter VI., Section IX., page 60.

[1]This law, in its essential character, was adopted by the General Conference in 1821 Bishops Newcomer and Zeller presiding.

Section V.

OATHS.

We believe that the mode of testifying to the truth when required so to do in a legal form, by way of affirmation, is on us solemnly, conscientiously, and fully binding, before God, to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

Section VI.

WAR.

We most positively record our disapproval of engaging in voluntary national aggressive warfare; yet we recognize the rightful authority of the civil government, and hold it responsible for the preservation and defense of our national compact, against treason or invasion by any belligerent force, and we believe it to be entirely consistent with the spirit of Christianity to bear arms when called upon to do so by the properly-constituted authorities of our Government for its preservation and defense.

Section VII.

THE FAMILY.

1. We believe that the marriage relation is of divine authority; that it is the mutual union of one man and one woman; that the obligation is most sacred, and morally binding so long as both shall live, and therefore cannot be dissolved at will, nor should it be by a decree of a civil tribunal, except on evidence that one party is guilty of adultery.

2. On positive evidence of such guilt the innocent party is free from further matrimonial obligations and justly entitled to a divorce and to marry again, but the guilty party has no such right.

3. We deny the right of marriage to both parties who have been divorced for other causes than adultery.

4. Any person sustaining a marriage relation contrary to that above recognized as justifiable shall be ineligible to the office of the ministry of this Church.

5. No minister of this Church shall knowingly solemnize the marriage of two persons, either of whom has been divorced for other than the above justifiable cause, and shall be amenable to the Church for disobedience to the order thereof.

PART IV.

PROPERTY.

CHAPTER XII.

CHURCH-HOUSES AND PARSONAGES.

Electing Trustees.

1. WHENEVER it is contemplated to purchase or build a church-house or parsonage, it shall be the duty of any member to make it known to the quarterly conference of the circuit or station to which he belongs. The quarterly conference shall then elect a board of trustees of not less than three persons, or as the law of the State may require; provided, however, that at least a majority of said board shall be members of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ. The trustees shall hold their office during the pleasure of the quarterly conference.

Vacancies.

2. When vacancies occur in a board of trustees it shall be the duty of the quarterly conference to elect suitable persons to fill such vacancies, and the secretary of the board of trustees shall see that the records of the county wherein such board may reside shall correspond with the facts in the case according as the law of the State may require, after such vacancies have been filled.

Duties of Trustees.

3. The trustees shall meet annually, and shall organize, if a new, or reorganize if an old board, by electing from their number the following officers; namely, a president, secretary, and treasurer. Special meetings may be called by the president or by a majority of the members of the board.

4. The secretary shall keep a correct record of all business transactions of the board in a book provided for that purpose, which shall at all times be open for the inspection of the official board and the quarterly conference, as well as of the board of trustees.

5. The treasurer shall receive all funds of the board for church-house, cemetery, or parsonage purposes, and pay out the same under the direction of the board, on regularly-drawn orders signed by the president and secretary, and report the financial condition at their several meetings, and to the quarterly conference at least once each year.

6. No board of trustees shall begin the building of a church-house or parsonage without first submitting their plans and estimates of lot, or lots, and building, to the official board or quarterly conference for consideration, approval, and directions. Nor shall they proceed to buy or build without first procuring an incorporation of their board, such as the State requires, nor without securing and recording a warranty deed, the blank form prepared by the Church Erection Society, to themselves and their successors in office for the real estate which they purchase, nor until they have the necessary means either in hand or sufficiently assured, thus securing harmony of action and avoiding the encumbering of our houses of worship and parsonages with embarrassing debts.

7. It shall be the duty of the board of trustees to take charge of all the church property, employ janitors, furnish light and fuel, keep the property insured, and look carefully after other wants from time to time.

8. For the raising of funds for extraordinary expenses, such as building churches, or making extensive repairs, or paying large debts, the trustees may devise such measures as may be deemed best, and report the same to the official board or quarterly conference for approval and coöperation.

Sale and Rent of Church Houses and Parsonages.

9. The quarterly conference may authorize the board of trustees to lease, rent, or sell church or parsonage property within its jurisdiction; provided, however, that said proceeds shall be used in purchasing, repairing, or building new church or parsonage property within its bounds, except the interest or rents accruing from parsonage property, which may be applied to pay rent on the house occupied by the pastor. Provided further, that no church-house shall be sold that would result in the discontinuation or disorganization of a class, without the consent of the annual conference within the bounds of which said property is located.

Conditions of Mortgages and Liens.

10. No board of trustees shall have power to mortgage or to place a lien of any kind on real estate of the United Brethren in Christ, except for the purchase of such real estate, or the erection of necessary buildings, or for repairing, or otherwise improving the same.

Abandoned Church-Houses.

11. When a house of worship outside of the jurisdiction of any quarterly conference ceases to be used by our own people for preaching or other religious purposes, it shall be the duty of the presiding elder of the district in which such house is located to report to the annual conference, which body shall authorize the board of directors of the conference board of the Church Erection Society to rent, lease, or sell such house of worship, as they deem advisable, and report their proceeding to the annual conference, which body shall have power to use the proceeds to pay debts on other houses of worship, build new houses, or turn the money into the funds of the Church Erection Society, as may seem proper, at its own discretion: provided, that in no case shall a church-house and its premises be sold without the consent of the annual conference within whose bounds it is located. In a conference in which there is no branch board of directors, the conference shall have power to appoint a board of trustees to take charge of the abandoned property.

Abandoned Parsonages.

12. Should any parsonage be permanently abandoned as such, the presiding elder of the district in which such parsonage is located shall report the same to the annual conference, which body shall have power to appoint a board of trustees, who shall rent or sell such parsonage, and pay over the proceeds to the annual conference, which body shall expend the same in paying debts on other parsonages, or in building new ones within its borders.

Transfer of Churches.

13. When a lot is deeded to an English United Brethren church, or to a German United Brethren church, and one or the other ceases to exist in an organized form, by deaths, removals, expulsions, or otherwise, or when a majority of the members of said church shall decide to

change either from the German to the English, or *vice versa*, then the church remaining shall have full right to make such improvements or repairs on said lot as may be desirable for the purposes of worship, and shall be entitled to peaceful possession.

Division of Interest.

14. In cases where fields of labor having parsonages upon them are divided, the disposition of said parsonages shall be submitted to a board of arbiters, consisting of three members of the Church, one to be chosen by each quarterly conference, and the third by these two, to whom the whole matter shall be referred, their decision of the case being final. In cases where more than two quarterly conferences are interested, the same plan shall be pursued. In case this plan fail, the quarterly conferences shall instruct the presiding elder to appoint a committee of three persons, all members of our Church, but none of them residents or members of either of the fields affected, and their decision shall be final.

Real Estate.

15. Other real estate held for church or parsonage purposes shall be subject to the same regulations as houses of worship and parsonages.

Conference or District Property.

16. Where there is no provision by the laws of the State for the incorporation of religious organizations, and there is property that belongs to a district or conference, such as parsonages for the use of bishops or presiding elders, said conference or the conferences of said district may elect a board of trustees, who shall be members of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, residing within the district or conference, who shall have the right to receive deeds for such property and power to lease, rent, or sell the same.

17. Any quarterly conference that has appointed trustees for a bishop's parsonage shall fill all vacancies under the direction of the coöperating conferences.

Church Plans.

18. The Church Erection Society shall provide plans and specifications for church-houses, which shall be supplied at cost to trustees who apply.

CHAPTER XIII.

Board of Church Trustees.

Section 1. *Be it ordained by the General Conference of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ*, That there shall be an incorporated Board of Trustees for the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, consisting of twelve members, a majority of whom shall be citizens of Ohio, elected by the General Conference of said Church for a term of four years, or until their successors are elected. Said board shall be known as "The Trustees of the United Brethren in Christ," and its headquarters shall be in Dayton, Ohio.

Sec. 2. The organization of this board shall be effected at its first regular meeting of each quadrennium by the election of a president and secretary, and it shall thereafter reorganize annually. The General Church Treasurer shall be the treasurer of this body. It shall meet on the call of the president annually, or whenever the president and secretary may determine. The board may elect an executive committee with authority to transact any necessary business in the interim of the board's sessions, subject to the approval of the board.

Sec. 3. It shall be the duty of the board to receive, hold in trust, or apply, for the benefit of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, any and all funds, donations, grants, and bequests that may be given, directed, or conveyed to such board or to the United Brethren Church as such, for any benevolent purpose whatever. All such funds and the proceeds thereof shall be applied in harmony with the specified purpose of the donors, or, in the absence of such specifications, as the board may determine.

Sec. 4. The board shall report quadrennially to the General Conference of said Church all funds and property received for the Church and the disposition made of the same, and shall be answerable to, and under the direction of said General Conference.

PART V.

Departments for Christian Instruction and Training.

CHAPTER XIV.

Department of Sunday School, Brotherhood, and Young People's Work.

In order to secure a general and systematic study of the Bible, the development of the various forms of men's work in our Church, and the training of our young people for the best service, we ordain the following constitution for the department to be known as the Department of Sunday School, Brotherhood, and Young People's Work, which department shall be the legal successor of what was heretofore known as the General Sunday School Board, the Men's Movement, and Young People's Christian Endeavor Union.

Section I.

constitution of the general board.

Article I.

board of control.

The department of Sunday School, Brotherhood, and Young People's Work shall be under the direction of a General Board of Control.

Article II.

object.

The object of this board shall be to promote the organization, growth, and efficiency of Sunday schools, brotherhoods, and Young People's societies, and hold such conventions as may be deemed wise and necessary.

Article III.

members of the board.

The board shall be composed of nine elected members, at least five of whom shall be laymen, and the general secretary,

who shall be elected by the General Conference for four years, together with the editors of the Sunday-school literature, the editor of the Watchword, and the General Publishing Agent. The bishops shall be *ex officio* members of this board. A majority of the board shall constitute a quorum.

Article IV.

OFFICERS AND MEETINGS.

1. This board shall be convened by the general secretary within thirty days after election, and shall be organized by electing from their own number a president and recording secretary.

2. The General Treasurer of the Church shall be the treasurer of this board.

3. The board shall meet annually in the month of April or May on such day or days as it may from time to time determine; other meetings may be held upon the call of the secretary.

Article V.

ADDITIONAL SECRETARIES.

For the advancement of each of the departments recognized under this board, said board shall have power to employ additional secretaries.

Article VI.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The board shall elect five from its own number as an executive committee who shall act in the interim of the board meetings.

Article VII.

VACANCIES.

The board shall be empowered to fill vacancies occurring during the quadrennium.

Article VIII.

FUNDS.

1. The sources of funds for this board shall be an assessment of three cents per member levied upon the membership of the Church; the offering from the observance of Children's Day; an offering from each organized men's Bible class and brotherhood taken during the month of January; a fifty-cent fee from each Young People's society; a twenty-five-cent fee

from each Junior society, and the anniversary offering taken on Young People's Day.

2. The funds of this board shall be used to assist in maintaining Sunday schools in home and foreign fields, in organizing and promoting the best interests of Bible classes, brotherhoods, leagues, etc., and for defraying the legitimate expenses of the board; provided that the principal of all permanent funds shall be carefully invested and only the income therefrom be expended.

3. All applications for literature for Sunday schools shall be made through the general secretary, the granting of which request shall be subject to regulations prescribed by the board or executive committee. Appropriations shall be made only to Sunday schools conducted in harmony with the disciplinary provisions of the United Brethren Church, or to schools giving satisfactory evidence that they will soon become such.

Article IX.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

1. The president shall preside at the meetings of the board. He shall also call special meetings of the board when in his judgment and that of the executive committee, it is necessary.

2. The recording secretary shall keep an accurate record of the business transactions of the board in a book provided for that purpose, and under direction of the president shall issue the call for the regular and special sessions of the board.

3. The General Church Treasurer shall hold in trust the funds of the board and disburse the same on orders properly signed by the president of the board and the general secretary.

4. It shall be the duty of the general secretary, when at all practicable, to visit the conferences in the interests of the work of the board. He shall endeavor to stimulate interest in Sunday schools by presenting the most approved methods of work. He shall urge the organization and maintenance of all regularly-recognized departments, such as the Cradle Roll, Home Department, etc. He shall organize teacher-training classes and urge the observance of Children's Day. He shall aid in developing mission study and Christian benevolences in all our schools, brotherhoods, and Young

People's societies. He shall give special attention to organization and development of men's Bible classes, brotherhoods, and Young People's societies. He shall keep a record of all bequests and legacies, notes, and other valuable papers coming into his possession and turn the same over to the General Church Treasurer for safe deposit. He shall prepare and publish an annual report of the work of the department; also a quadrennial report for the General Conference. He shall perform such other duties as the board may direct.

Section II.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE RELATIONS AND DUTIES.

1. Each annual conference shall elect annually a conference board, consisting of five members. This board shall meet immediately on the adjournment of the annual conference and organize by electing a president, secretary, and treasurer. The duties of this board shall be:

a. To stimulate the development of the Sunday school, brotherhood, and Young People's work within the bounds of the conference.

b. The secretary shall collect and preserve the statistics of the schools, brotherhoods, and Young People's societies of the conference and transmit a copy thereof to the General Secretary of the General Board, and in conjunction with the officers of the branch union of the Young People's society provide for such conventions as may be deemed necessary.

c. It shall represent the interests of this department before the annual conference and hold an anniversary service at each annual conference session.

2. The annual conference may levy an assessment on the charges not to exceed two cents per member, for the use of its conference board, said assessments to be additional to the regular assessment levied by the regular board.

Pastor's Relations.

3. The pastor shall have general supervision over the Sunday schools, brotherhoods, and Young People's societies of his charge, and shall be present at their sessions as often as practicable. He shall be present and preside at the reorganization of his Sunday schools. It shall be his duty to organize a Sunday school at each appointment on his charge where there is not one already. He shall encourage the organization of Young People's societies and brotherhoods on

his charge where at all practicable. He shall furnish such statistics of schools, brotherhoods, and Young People's societies as are required by the annual conference chart, and such other statistical information as may be requested by the authorized heads of the departments. It shall also be his duty to see that Children's Day and Young People's Anniversary Day are observed and that liberal offerings are taken upon these days and sent to the general secretary. These offerings shall be in addition to the conference assessment for the General Board.

Section III.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL WORK.

Organization of New Sunday Schools.

In organizing a new school the pastor shall pursue such plan as he may think advisable to secure a superintendent, secretary, and treasurer. It is desirable that, if possible, such officers should be active Christians and members of our Church. They shall hold office for one year, and shall perform the duties which usually pertain to such offices.

CONSTITUTION FOR A SUNDAY SCHOOL.

It is recommended that all the Sunday schools adopt the following constitution; provided, that any school may have the privilege of enacting such by-laws for its better regulation as will not conflict with the constitution.

Article I.

This school shall be known as the United Brethren Sunday School of - —— .

Article II.

The object of the school shall be to gather in all people for the study of the Bible and for the study of the various activities of the church, to secure the salvation of souls, to train for Christian service and to promote the worship of God.

Article III.

1. The officers shall be the pastor, a superintendent, a secretary, a treasurer, a librarian, and, when desired by the school, a chorister and organist. The duties of these officers shall be such as usually pertain to such offices; and when-

ever it is deemed necessary for the interests of the school, an assistant may be elected in each of these offices; all of whom shall be subject in their official duties to their superior officers, except in the absence of such superiors.

2. There shall be an executive committee of three or five, chosen by the school, a majority of whom shall be members of the United Brethren Church at ———. The pastor and superintendent shall also be members *ex officio*. It shall be the duty of this committee to select and order a suitable amount of our own literature and helps for the school from time to time, and look after the general interests of the school.

3. The executive committee, in conjunction with the teachers of school, may at least one week prior to the time of the annual election, nominate suitable persons as candidates for each of the various offices of the school; provided that, on stations, if desirable to the pastor, the election of the superintendent may be by the official board.

4. All elections in schools shall be by ballot, only enrolled members over twelve years of age voting.

5. The superintendent, when at all possible, shall be a member of the United Brethren Church, in good and regular standing. He, with the approval of the pastor, shall appoint the teachers; provided, however, that regularly-organized adult classes may select their teachers subject to the approval of the superintendent and pastor.

6. The pastor of the church shall preside at each annual election, whenever practicable, and the superintendent or pastor shall preside at all special elections.

Article IV.

Vacancies for unexpired terms shall be filled in the same manner and form as above provided for annual reorganization.

Article V.

MISSIONS IN THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Each of our Sunday schools, in its auxiliary relationship to the Home Missionary Society and the Foreign Missionary Society of our Church, is expected to observe a monthly missionary day, on which a brief missionary exercise shall be rendered and a missionary offering taken. In places where a monthly missionary day seems impracticable, each school shall be required to observe such a missionary day once a

quarter. The first and third quarters of the calendar year shall be devoted to the study of foreign missions; the second and fourth quarters to the study of home missions; the offerings during these periods to go to the respective missionary societies.

Section IV.

BROTHERHOOD WORK.

General Statement.

A promising movement in modern Christianity is the binding together of men in church brotherhoods for personal, religious improvement and training for efficient service in the kingdom of Christ.

A brotherhood in its organization may comprise all the men of a local church, or a men's Bible class (where such is the only men's organization in the church), or a group of two or more men's Bible classes in the Sunday school.

It should be sufficiently broad in its organization to include in its activities all the men of both the local church and Sunday school. The number of committees may be diminished or increased according to the discretion of the brotherhood. Special attention should be given by the brotherhood to the development of various forms of work among boys.

CONSTITUTION SUGGESTED FOR A BROTHERHOOD.

Article I.

NAME.

The name of this organization shall be the Otterbein Brotherhood of the ..... Church, United Brethren in Christ.

Article II.

OBJECT.

The purpose of this organization is to promote the brotherhood spirit, the religious growth and activity of our men, to increase interest in Bible study, the salvation of boys and men and forming among them a closer Christian fellowship, to build up the efficiency of the local church, to encourage denominational loyalty, to enlist men in all worthy movements for social, civic, and industrial betterment, and

in every way to train our men in Christ's service for the spread of his kingdom throughout the earth.

Article III.

MEMBERSHIP.

1. Any man over sixteen years of age shall be eligible to membership, if approved by the executive committee and elected by a majority of the members present at any regular meeting of the brotherhood.

2. Each member shall be required to pay a monthly due of ..... cents.

Article IV.

MEETINGS.

1. *Devotional.*—The brotherhood may hold weekly or monthly devotional meetings for the study of the Word, prayer, and testimony. All members of the brotherhood should be encouraged to take a part.

2. *Business.*—Business meetings shall be held monthly or quarterly or oftener at the call of the executive committee.

3. ..... members present at any regular or special meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

4. At the regular business meetings the officers and chairmen of committees shall submit written reports of work done.

Article V.

OFFICERS.

1. The elective officers shall consist of a president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer. They shall be elected for one year by a majority of the members present at the annual meeting and shall hold office until their successors are chosen.

2. The president and treasurer shall be members of the local church where this brotherhood is organized.

3. The pastor shall be an *ex officio* member of the executive committee.

Article VI.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

1. The president shall preside at all business meetings and shall be a member *ex officio* of all regular committees.

2. The vice-president shall assist the president and shall perform all the duties of the president in case of the latter's absence or disability.

3. The secretary shall keep a roll of the membership and a record of all the proceedings of each business meeting. He shall report the formation of the brotherhood to the conference organization and to the office of the Board of Control of Sunday School, Brotherhood, and Young People's Work, and from time to time report for publication items concerning the progress of the brotherhood.

4. The treasurer shall collect all dues, keep moneys, and pay all bills upon the authorization of the president and secretary. He shall make a report of all receipts and disbursements at the regular business meetings of the brotherhood.

Article VII.

STANDING COMMITTEES AND THEIR DUTIES.

1. There may be authorized six standing committees: executive, membership, devotional and religious work, social and fellowship, Bible and mission study, and Sunday-school work and moral reform.

2. The executive committee shall consist of the pastor, officers of the brotherhood and the chairmen of the standing committees. This committee shall outline plans and aims for the brotherhood and stimulate the different committees in their specific duties.

3. The membership committee shall seek to win new members, prayerfully follow up all delinquents, visit the sick, and provide as far as possible for the relief of all members in distress.

4. The devotional and religious work committee shall provide leaders and topics for such devotional meetings as shall be agreed upon, aid in building up the church prayer-meeting and other church services, and plan such other meetings as will promote the religious life of boys and men.

This committee should labor earnestly to carry on religious work among boys.

5. Social and fellowship. This committee shall provide social functions, welcome strangers and new-comers to the church services, Sunday-school and brotherhood meetings, and in every way encourage friendliness among men and boys.

6. Bible, mission study, and Sunday school. This committee shall seek to interest men in the study of the Bible, missionary books as authorized by our mission boards, and coöperate in the organization of men's and boy's classes in the Sunday school.

7. Moral reform. This committee shall bring to the notice of the brotherhood all urgent problems of moral reform and aid in advancing the cause of civic righteousness through the brotherhood.

Article VIII.

The brotherhood shall take an offering each year in the month of January for the use of the Board of Control in promoting its work, and, through the local treasurer, forward the same to the office of the General Church Treasurer at Dayton, Ohio.

Article IX.

AMENDMENTS.

This constitution may be amended at any regular business meeting of the brotherhood by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided the amendment was submitted to the brotherhood at a previous meeting.

Any by-laws may be adopted for increasing the efficiency of the brotherhood, provided such are in harmony with this constitution and the Discipline of the Church.

SECTION V.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK.

Article I.

MODEL CONSTITUTION FOR A YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR.

NAME.*

This society shall be called the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor of †.....United Brethren Church of †.....

Article II.

OBJECT.

It shall be the object of this society to promote an earnest Christian life among its members, to increase their mutual

*Societies desiring to use the name Young People's Christian Endeavor Union may do so.

†Insert name of church and place.

acquaintance, to make them more useful in the service of God, to promote loyalty to the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, to study its life and interests, and to seek in every proper way to assist in the growth of both the local church and the denomination at large, as our particular part of God's Zion.

Article III.

MEMBERSHIP.

1. The members shall consist of three classes, Active, Associate, and Honorary.

2. *Active Members.*—The active members of this society shall consist of the pastor and all Christian young people who sincerely desire to accomplish the object above specified. Voting powers shall be vested only in the active members.

3. *Associate Members.*—All young persons of worthy character who have not as yet publicly professed their faith in Christ, may become associate members of this society. They shall have the special prayers and sympathy of the active members. It is expected that all associate members will regularly attend the prayer-meetings and that they will in time become active members.

4. *Honorary or Affiliated Members.* Persons who for any reason cannot assume the duties of active membership, but who are interested in the society, and desire to promote its welfare, may become honorary members. Honorary members are expected to support the society financially and otherwise.

5. These different persons shall become members upon election by the society.

Article IV.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES.

1. The officers of this society shall be a president, a vice-president, a recording secretary, a corresponding secretary, a treasurer, and a Watchword agent, all of whom shall be chosen from the active members of the society. The president should be a member of the United Brethren Church.

2. *Executive Committee.*—This committee shall consist of the pastor of the church, the officers of the society, the chairmen of the various committees, and the Junior superintendent. All matters of business requiring debate may be brought first before this committee.

3. *Other Committees.*—There shall be appointed from the active membership such committees as shall be necessary to carry on the work of the society, these committees to be selected from the list suggested in the by-laws.

Article V.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

1. *President.*—The president of the society shall perform the duties usually pertaining to that office. He shall have general oversight of the interests of the society, and it shall be his care to see that the different committees perform the duties devolving upon them. He shall make a report of the work of the society at each session of the quarterly conference or official board.

2. *Vice-President.*—The vice-president shall assist the president in promoting the interest of the society and shall perform the duties of the president in his absence.

3. *Recording Secretary.*—The recording secretary shall keep a record of the members, and correct it from time to time, as may be necessary; shall obtain the signature of each newly-elected member to the pledge; shall correspond with absent members, and inform them of their standing in the society; shall keep correct minutes of all business meetings of the society; and shall notify all persons elected to office or to committees, in writing, if necessary.

4. *Corresponding Secretary.*—The corresponding secretary shall keep the local society in communication with the Board of Control of the Sunday School, Brotherhood, and Young People's Work, and with other local societies; and shall present to his own society such matters of interest as may come from the Board of Control, from other local societies, and from other Christian sources. He shall also report to the General Secretary of the Board of Control the number of persons who have adopted the Christian Stewardship plan. This office shall be permanent, and the name shall be forwarded to the corresponding secretary of the conference Union and to the General Secretary of the Board of Control, at Dayton, Ohio.

5. *Treasurer.*—The treasurer shall safely keep all moneys belonging to the society and pay out only such sums as shall be voted by the society.

Article VI.

THE PRAYER-MEETING.

1. All the active members shall be present at every meeting, unless detained by some absolute necessity, and each active member shall take some part, however slight, in every meeting. To the above all the active members shall pledge themselves, understanding by "absolute necessity" some reason for absence which can conscientiously be given to their Master, Jesus Christ.

2. Once each month a consecration or covenant meeting shall be held, at which each active member shall renew his vows of consecration. If any one chooses, he can express his feelings by an appropriate verse of scripture or other quotation.

3. At each consecration meeting the roll shall be called, or some other effective method of making the record may be employed, and the responses of the active members who are present shall be considered as a renewed expression of allegiance to Christ. It is expected that if any one is obliged to be absent from this meeting he will send a message, or at least a verse of scripture, to be read in response to his name at the roll-call.

4. If any active member of this society is absent from this monthly meeting and fails to send a message, the Lookout Committee is expected to take the name of such a one, and in a kind and brotherly spirit ascertain the reason for the absence. If an active member of the society is absent and unexcused from three consecutive monthly meetings, his name may be stricken from the list of members, on the approval of the Executive Committee.

5. The Lookout Committee may also, in order to satisfy itself of the Christian character of the candidate, present to all candidates for active membership the following card to be signed.*

Trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ for strength, I promise him that I will strive to do whatever he would have me do. I will make it the rule of my life to pray and read the Bible, to support the work and worship of my church, and to take my part in the meetings and other activities of this society. These things I will do unless hindered by conscientious reasons; and in them all I will seek the Savior's guidance.

Signed.....

*If this exact form of words is not adopted, it is earnestly hoped that a pledge embracing the main ideas will be used.

Article VII.

BUSINESS MEETINGS AND ELECTIONS.

1. Business meetings may be held monthly on an evening designated by the society, or at any other time upon call of the president.

2. An election of officers and committees shall be held annually (or semi-annually, as may be thought best). Names may be proposed by a nominating committee appointed by the president.

Article VIII.

RELATION TO THE CHURCH.

1. This society shall at no time adopt any rule or practice contrary to the Discipline and usages of the United Brethren Church.

2. This society shall be auxiliary to the ———— Conference Branch Christian Endeavor Union of the United Brethren in Christ.

Article IX.

DUES.

This society shall pay annually into the branch treasury, as dues, such sum as may be determined by the branch union, fifty cents of which shall go to the Board of Control of Young People's Work for the promotion of the general work. It shall also collect from each Junior and intermediate society as annual dues at least fifty cents, of which twenty-five cents shall go to the Board of Control for the general work. These annual dues should be forwarded by the treasurer, on order, to the treasurer of the branch union. These amounts are due the first of January each year, and should be paid during that month.

Article X.

AMENDMENTS.

This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting by a two-thirds vote of the members present, one week's notice having been given; provided that Article II. and Article IX. shall not be changed.

BY-LAWS.

Article I.

MEETINGS.

1. *Regular Meetings.*—This society shall hold a meeting on ———— evening of each week. The ———— regular meeting of each month shall be a testimony or consecration meeting. The regular business meeting shall be on the ———— evening of each month.

2. *Christian Culture Meetings.*—Meetings for the study of personal evangelism, missions, Christian stewardship, Christian citizenship, or other subjects may be held as determined upon by the society. Such meetings may be held at the time of the regular meetings, if agreed upon by the executive committee.

3. *Literary Meetings.*—Literary meetings for the pursuit of some definite course of study or for the rendering of literary programs may be held at such times as the society may determine, and shall be under the direction of the Literary Committee, provided that nothing shall be given inconsistent with our position as a Christian society.

Article II.

FINANCES.

The funds of the society may be raised by regular dues payable at the monthly business meeting or at the consecration meeting, or the society may adopt other systematic plans for the finances. Monthly payments to missionary funds may be made at the time when the monthly missionary topic is considered.

Article III.

SUGGESTED COMMITTEES AND THEIR DUTIES.

1. *Executive Committee.*—See Constitution, Article IV., Section 2.

2. *Lookout Committee.*—It shall be the duty of this committee to bring new members into the society, to introduce them to the work and to the other members, and to look after and reclaim any that seem indifferent to their duties. This committee shall also, after consideration, propose names for membership at least one week before their election.

3. *Devotional Committee.*—This committee shall have in charge the meetings, and shall see that a topic is assigned and a leader appointed for every devotional meeting. It

shall also assist the leader in increasing the interest in the devotional meetings.

4. *Social Committee.*—It shall be the duty of this committee to promote the social interests of the society by welcoming strangers to the meetings, and by providing for the mutual acquaintance of the members by occasional sociables, for which any appropriate entertainment of which the church approves may be provided.

5. *Church and Sunday School Committee.*—It shall be the duty of this committee to visit the young people of the community and strangers, invite them to the Sunday-school and church services, and see that they are properly received at these meetings. The committee shall also coöperate with the pastor of the church and the superintendent of the Sunday school in any way which they may suggest for the benefit of the church and Sunday school.

6. *Missionary Committee.*—It shall be the duty of this committee to awaken an intelligent missionary enthusiasm among the members of the society. This interest is to be aroused by holding missionary meetings, promoting mission study classes, and by using missionary funds as directed by the society.

7. *Music Committee.*—It shall be the duty of this committee to provide for the singing at the Young People's meeting, and also to turn the musical ability of the society into account, when necessary, at public religious meetings.

8. *The Relief Committee.*—It shall be the duty of this committee to do what it can to cheer and aid, if possible and necessary by material comforts, the sick and destitute among the young people of the church and Sunday school.

9. *The Literary Committee.*—The Literary Committee (of which the pastor may be a member) shall have charge of the literary work of the society. It shall also do what it can to circulate the *Watchword*, the *Religious Telescope*, and all other periodicals of the Church, among the families of the congregation, as the pastor of the church may direct. It may, if deemed best, distribute tracts, and in any other suitable way introduce good reading matter wherever practicable. The *Watchword* Agent may be chairman of this committee.

10. *Christian Stewardship Committee.*—It shall be the duty of this committee to practice and teach by every possible means the duty of systematic, proportionate giving to the cause of Christ of at least one-tenth of the income of the

members of the society, and to secure and preserve a roll of the members who practice such giving, or will promise to do so, and through the corresponding secretary of the society forward a list of such names to the General Secretary of the Board of Control or to the Secretary of Christian Stewardship.

11. *College Committee.*—It shall be the duty of this committee to keep the society in touch with the college with which the conference coöperates, to awaken a desire in the young people for college training, and communicate the names of the persons who may desire to attend the college to the president of the college, and to promote the interests of the college in any reasonable way in which the college authorities may suggest.

Article IV.

ELECTIONS.

The election of officers shall be held at the regular business meeting in ————. A nominating committee may be appointed by the president.

Article V.

QUORUM.

———— members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Article VI.

AMENDMENTS.

These By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

SECTION VI.

MODEL CONSTITUTION FOR A JUNIOR CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SOCIETY.*

Article I.

NAME.

This organization shall be known as the Junior Christian Endeavor Society† of ..... United Brethren Church of .....

*This constitution by a few verbal changes may be adapted to the Intermediate society.

†Where it is not desired to use the pledge and the Endeavor name, the society may be called the Junior Young People's Society.

Article II.

OBJECT.

The object of this society shall be to promote in its members a pure and worthy character, to aid in the study of the Bible, and to cultivate the principles of loyal service to Christ.

Article III.

MEMBERSHIP.

1. The members shall be boys and girls from seven to fifteen years of age, who shall have been approved by the superintendents, and elected by a majority of the members present at any regular meeting.

2. All those who become members shall pledge themselves to attend regularly the meetings of the society and to observe good order in them.

Article IV.

JUNIOR SOCIETY PLEDGE.

Trusting in Jesus Christ to help me, I promise that I will strive to do whatever he would like to have me do; that I will pray and read the Bible, and keep the Sabbath day holy; and that just so far as I know how I will try to lead a good life; that I will be present at every meeting when not hindered by sickness or some other just cause; and that I will take some part in the meetings, especially the monthly recognition meetings.

NOTE.—There should be great care in having young children, who will innocently sign anything, take this pledge. The pledge should be clearly explained and wisely emphasized. To secure the coöperation of parents, the superintendents should send to them a copy of the pledge, and also the following for the parents to sign.

PARENT'S ANSWER.

I have carefully read the accompanying pledge and cheerfully give my consent for ..... to sign it, and will do what I can to help ..... to faithfully keep it.

Parent's Name.....

Address.....

Article V.

OFFICERS.

1. The officers of this society shall be a superintendent and such assistant superintendents (adults) as may be needed, a president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer.

2. The superintendents may be appointed by the pastor, or elected by the Young People's Society of the church, with the approval of the pastor and official board.

Article VI.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

1. The superintendent shall have general charge of the society and its work. A report is to be made to each quarterly conference.

2. The assistant superintendents shall aid the superintendent in promoting the work of the society. The first assistant may care for all the funds received from the treasurer.

3. The president shall preside at all business meetings, under the advice of the superintendent.

4. The vice-president shall conduct business meetings in the absence of the president.

5. The secretary shall keep a record of the names and attendance of members, and of the proceedings of all business meetings.

6. The treasurer shall take the collections, enter the amount in a book provided for that purpose, and turn over the money to the assistant superintendent for safe keeping. A record shall also be kept of all expenditures as directed by the superintendent and society.

Article VII.

COMMITTEES.

There may be such committees as the superintendent deems necessary. The members of the committees may be nominated by the superintendent and elected by the society.

1. *Lookout, or Membership Committee.*—This committee shall secure the names of those who should join the society and seek to induce them to become members. They shall also aid in keeping the members faithful in attendance and taking part.

2. *Prayer-Meeting, or Devotional.*—This committee shall help the superintendent to arrange programs, provide music, to distribute Bibles, singing-books, tracts, etc., and to aid in

every way which the superintendents may direct to promote the interests of the meetings.

3. *Social.*—This committee shall welcome the members to the meetings and help the superintendent in holding socials.

4. *Temperance.*—To canvass for signatures to the temperance pledge under the direction of the superintendents, and to help in any other way to promote temperance work among boys and girls.

Temperance Pledge.—I hereby promise, God helping me, to abstain from the use of tobacco in every form, from the use of wine, beer, and other intoxicating drinks, and from the use of all profane and unclean language.

5. *Executive Committee.*—The pastor, superintendents, and the officers shall compose the executive committee, which shall have full control of the affairs of the society.

Article VIII.

MEETINGS.

1. A devotional meeting shall be held every week, the exercises of which shall consist of prayers, scripture reading and study, singing, and testimony.

2. Once a month the meeting shall be known as the Recognition Meeting. At some time during the exercises the pledge, if there is one, shall be recited in concert, and the roll called. The responses shall be considered a renewal of the pledge of the society.

3. All meetings shall be in charge of the superintendents, employing the members as leaders in the best manner to train them.

4. The pastor or superintendents shall use a part of the hour of the weekly meeting, when deemed best, for special instruction in Bible truth, or for other profitable exercises.

Article IX.

RELATIONSHIP.

This society shall be considered a department of the church with which it is connected. It shall also sustain a close and intimate relation to the Young People's Society of the church, with which the members of this Junior society are expected to connect themselves when they have reached the age limit.

BY-LAWS.

1. The regular meetings of this society shall be held ..... The last meeting of each month shall

be a recognition meeting. The business meeting shall be held .....

2. The superintendents, in consultation with the pastor, shall at each election propose names of available members for the several offices, who shall be elected by a majority of the members present. The officers shall be elected and the committees appointed for a term of six months, and shall enter upon their duties the..... day of ..... and the ..... day of..... of each year.

3. The funds for the expenses of the society and other purposes may be raised by regular dues or by offerings taken at the monthly Recognition Meetings, or at other meetings as the superintendents may arrange.

4. Special meetings of the society may be called at any time by the pastor or superintendents.

5. The committees should hold a meeting with the superintendents once a month for consultation about their work.

6. This Constitution and these By-Laws may be amended at any regular meeting upon the recommendation of the executive committee.

MODEL CONSTITUTION FOR THE CONFERENCE BRANCH CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR UNION.*

Article I.

NAME.

This organization shall be called the Christian Endeavor Union of the ..... conference of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ.

Article II.

OBJECT.

The object of this union shall be to unite the Young People's Christian societies of the conference, of whatever name, for mutual helpfulness, and for stimulating Church loyalty and an intelligent interest in the various Church enterprises, and for the organization and extension of Young People's Christian societies within the conference.

*The incorporation of the name "Christian Endeavor" was authorized by the Biennial Convention, 1908, and was approved by the General Conference.

Article III.

MEMBERSHIP.

1. Any Young People's Christian Endeavor Society, Young People's Christian Union, or any other Young People's Christian organization connected with a United Brethren Church in this conference may be a member of this Branch Union. Local Junior and intermediate societies may likewise be members.

2. Each Young People's Society shall be entitled to——— delegates, and each Junior and intermediate society to——— delegates to the conventions of the Branch Union.

Article IV.

OFFICERS.

1. The officers shall be a president, a vice-president, a recording secretary, a corresponding secretary, a treasurer, one or more Junior superintendents, and such other department superintendents as may be deemed necessary. These shall be elected at the regular convention of the union.

2. The Branch Executive Committee shall consist of all the regularly-elected officers of the Branch Union, and such other members as may be elected. This committee should cooperate with the conference board of the Department of Sunday School, Brotherhood, and Young People's Work.

Article V.

DUTIES.

1. The duties of the president, vice-president, and treasurer shall be such as usually devolve upon such officers.

2. The duties of the recording secretary shall be to keep a record of all transactions of the union and of the executive committee.

3. The duties of the corresponding secretary shall be to keep a list of the societies in the conference, with the name of the president and corresponding secretary of each, and a list of the officers of the Branch Union; to furnish the same to the General Secretary of the Board of Control of Sunday School, Brotherhood, and Young People's Work; to conduct all correspondence; and to be the organizer of new societies within the conference.

4. The Junior superintendents shall have charge of the Junior work in the branch.

5. The executive committee shall look after the interests of the Young People's societies in the conference, provide for meeting necessary expenses, provide for the collection of annual dues and the payment of the proper amounts to the General Secretary of the Board of Control at Dayton, Ohio, arrange for the annual meetings, and perform such other duties as may be requested by the Board of Control.

Article VI.

CONVENTIONS.

1. The conventions of this Branch Union shall be annual, at such time and place as may be determined by the union or by its executive committee.

Article VII.

FINANCES.

The funds for the regular work of this union may be raised by annual dues levied upon each Young People's, Intermediate, and Junior Society in the conference, the amount to be determined by the union. From the dues collected, fifty cents for each Young People's Society and twenty-five cents for each Intermediate or Junior Society shall be paid annually to the Board of Control for the general work. Branch benevolent funds may be raised by systematic offerings or in any other proper manner.

Article VIII.

By-Laws.

The Branch Union may enact such by-laws as conference conditions and needs may require. It is expected that no by-laws inconsistent with the general good of the Young People's work in the Church will be enacted.

CHAPTER XV.

Christian Stewardship.

The providence of God and the trend of events indicate that the time has come when there should be a thorough, systematic, and definite system inaugurated, with a properly-equipped agency, authorized by this General Conference to promote Christian stewardship and tithing systematically and continuously in financing the departments of our work: and, furthermore, believing that Christian stewardship as taught in the Word of God is the only correct method, and vitally important for the success of the spreading of the gospel, therefore the following is enacted:

1. That a text-book or manual on the principles of stewardship and tithing and on plans and methods of local church financing be prepared to be used as a text-book of instruction for official boards and the laity of the Church, in a manner similar to the books now used for mission study and teacher training.

2. To study the workings of local church financial plans and advocate the best.

3. To conduct an educational campaign for systematic and proportionate giving.

4. To provide tracts and by speech and press promote the principles of stewardship.

5. It is recommended that the laymen and pastors on each charge seek to introduce a weekly system of giving to meet all local needs, including pastor's salary, conference superintendent's salary, expenses of janitor, music, taxes, repairs, printing, heating, lighting, and for any other items thought necessary by the local church.

The form of subscription card to meet these needs recommended will be found in Formulas and Forms, page 200.

6. Our churches should introduce a weekly system of giving for benevolences as well as for their local needs, and when a congregation introduces such a system it should be relieved from special appeals for purposes provided for in the weekly system. As a suggestive form of pledge for securing the benevolences, we recommend the form No. 25 under Formulas and Forms, page 200.

7. For those churches that are not prepared to introduce immediately such a system of weekly or monthly offerings, we recommend the combining of the various departments into two or three well-defined groups for adequate presentation. After proper emphasis has been given in this way in a year or two, it is hoped that every church will be able to combine the entire benevolent interests in one weekly system of offerings.

8. We urge that the bishops, general officers, presiding elders, pastors, and official boards unite most heartily in making this campaign on Christian stewardship and a weekly system of giving one of the most prominent features of our denominational work during the next quadrennium.

9. That the General Conference direct the general departments, including the Home Missionary Society, the Foreign Missionary Society, the Church Erection Society, the Board of Education, the Board of Managers of Bonebrake Theological Seminary, the Board of Control of Sunday School, Brotherhood, and Young People's Work, the Woman's Missionary Association, and the Publishing House to set apart a sufficient amount of funds to properly promote such a campaign of educating and training.

10. That a department of Christian Stewardship be created. That the Board of Management consist of the General Secretaries of the boards interested, the Manager of Bonebrake Seminary, and the Publishing Agent, and said Board shall have power to employ a secretary for this department.

PART VI.

Benevolent and Educational Institutions.

CHAPTER XVI.

The Home Missionary Society.

CONSTITUTION.

Article I.

This society shall be called the Home Missionary Society of the United Brethren in Christ (the legal successor of the Home, Frontier, and Foreign Missionary Society of the United Brethren in Christ in its home work), and is organized for the purpose of extending and establishing the work of the Church in the home field. It shall also have charge of the general evangelistic work of the Church, employing only representative men, and in such fields as it may select.

Article II.

The Board of Control shall consist of six directors who shall be elected by the General Conference, and three directors who shall be elected by the trustees of the Woman's Missionary Association. The Board of Bishops and the General Secretary of the society shall be members *ex officio*. A majority of the members present at any regular or called meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Article III.

ORGANIZATION.

Immediately upon adjournment of the General Conference, a meeting of the board shall be called by the secretary, and an organization effected for the quadrennium by electing a president, vice-president, and an executive committee. Six members shall be chosen for the executive committee, four by the directors of the Home Missionary Society and two by the trustees of the Woman's Missionary Association. The General Secretary of the society shall be a member *ex officio*.

Article IV.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

1. *President.* The president shall preside at all meetings of the board, and shall have power, in conjunction with the secretary, to call special meetings. In the absence of the president the vice-president shall take his place.

2. *Secretary.* The general secretary shall keep correct minutes of all the proceedings of the society, conduct its correspondence, and keep a record of all bequests, legacies, notes, and other valuable papers coming into his possession. He shall also make out and publish an annual report of the work of the society; also, a quadrennial report for the General Conference. It shall be his further duty, when practicable, to visit the fields where the board is giving aid, with the view of acquainting himself and the board with the condition and needs of the work. He shall give himself to the raising of funds by visiting churches, and personally representing the interests of the society. He shall have the privilege of one page in the *Religious Telescope*, subject to the general approval of the editor. His salary shall be fixed by the General Conference.

3. *Treasurer.* The General Church Treasurer shall hold the funds of the society, subject to the order of the board. The General Conference shall fix his salary. The proportion of his salary to be paid by this society shall be paid by the executive committee in conjunction with the other boards having the services of said General Treasurer.

Article V.

DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF CONTROL.

This board shall hold annual meetings, appoint an executive committee, make by-laws for the better regulation of its work, appropriate funds for current expenses, employ missionaries, open new missions, appoint superintendents for mission districts, authorize or discontinue appropriations, fill vacancies in its own body and in connection with one or more of the bishops, ordain missionaries in its employ to the office of elder, provided such missionaries have taken the course of study required by Discipline, or its equivalent. It shall also have power to recommend persons for presiding elders in conferences where said elders are supported in part by the board.

Article VI.

BRANCH SOCIETIES.

Each annual conference shall organize a branch society, auxiliary to the Home Missionary Society, consisting of three members, naming one as its secretary, who shall assist the general secretary in developing interests in home missions and securing gifts for the society. It shall also be the duty of the branches to hold home mission rallies in their respective conferences, coöperating with the general society in organizing home mission study classes and the general spread of home mission information.

Article VII.

FUNDS.

1. The proceeds of permanent funds hereafter secured shall be used by the Home Board, unless the donors direct otherwise.

2. The Home Missionary Society shall be freed from any or all division of funds with the conferences or any other societies, and be placed on the basis of a direct appeal. The claims of home missions shall be placed before the members of each congregation by the pastor, or a committee appointed for that purpose, not less frequently than once a year, to secure a definite contribution from all the people.

3. All the funds contributed under the aforesaid presentation shall be thus forwarded to the conference treasurer within thirty days, and by him to the office of the society at Dayton, Ohio.

4. Assessments made by conferences for the purpose of extending the work within their bounds shall be designated as "Conference Church Extension Funds," thereby avoiding confusion, and the annual report of the treasurer shall have an exhibit of this conference extension fund, as collected in the several annual conferences.

5. Each of our Sunday schools, in its auxiliary relationship to the Home Missionary Society, and the Foreign Missionary Society of our Church, is expected to observe a monthly missionary day, on which a brief missionary exercise shall be rendered and a missionary offering taken. In places where a monthly missionary day seems impracticable each school shall be required to observe such a missionary day once a quarter. The first and third quarters of the calendar year shall be devoted to the study of foreign mis-

sions. The second and fourth quarters shall be devoted to the study of home missions, the offerings during these periods to go to the respective missionary societies.

6.* The month of November shall be observed by all our congregations as a time of prayer and thanksgiving for missions, when pastors shall preach on the subject and turn the attention of the people toward the extension of the Master's kingdom in the home and foreign fields.

7. Individuals, adult Bible classes, Sunday schools, Young People's societies, congregations, and conferences shall be encouraged to support their own representatives in important mission fields.

8. Special efforts shall be made by the general secretary, pastors, and presiding elders to secure wills, bequests, and deeded properties for the purpose of building up a permanent fund, the interest only to be used for home missions.

Article VIII.

LOCAL ORGANIZATION.

A missionary committee may be organized in any local church to interest and enlist the entire membership of the local church in the work of both home and foreign missions, and devise such methods and measures as shall develop the church into a strong missionary agency.

Article IX.

MISSION DISTRICTS.

A mission district shall consist of three or more fields of labor outside the bounds of an annual conference. The regular sessions of its ministers and lay delegates shall be presided over by a bishop or an elder appointed by the board. At these meetings the regular business of an annual conference may be transacted, except that the superintendent shall be appointed by the board.

Article X.

UNOCCUPIED TERRITORY.

The Home Mission Board may operate in any territory within the bounds of an annual conference not occupied by said conference, and by consent of the same.

*This paragraph applies alike to the Foreign Missionary Society.

Article XI.

MISSIONARIES.

Every missionary in the board's employ shall report to the general secretary monthly respecting the condition of his charge; and no missionary shall be entitled to his salary if he neglects this requirement, or leaves his field without the consent of the board or his presiding elder. A similar quarterly report is also required of presiding elders employed by the board.

Article XII.

The secretary shall arrange for the selection of an appropriate text-book upon the present great social questions at least twice during the quadrennium for the use of classes in Young People's societies and churches.

Article XIII.

THE RELATION OF THE MINISTRY TO HOME MISSIONS.

1. Every pastor in charge of a field of labor shall seek to organize and train the membership of his charge to become an efficient force in the extension of our missionary work in the home field, by the organization of home mission study classes, the introduction of mission training in the Sunday school and the promotion of the laymen's missionary movement, which is to be both home and foreign in its educational and benevolent work. He shall strive earnestly to get every member of the Church to give systematically to home missions and report the offerings for this cause quarterly to the conference treasurer of home missions.

2. The bishops of the Church and the conference superintendents or presiding elders shall promote home missions by sermons, and addresses, and by careful inquiry concerning the work being done on the various charges for this cause; and they shall seek to develop the missionary spirit by aiding the missionary institutes and in the widespread study of home missions.

3. The bishops shall visit new and promising openings, especially in the cities and large towns, and give personal direction in establishing missions within the bounds of their districts.

Article XIV.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE TREASURER.

Each annual conference shall elect a treasurer of home missionary funds who shall report quarterly the amount received for this cause to the general secretary at Dayton, Ohio, who shall make record thereof and receipt for the same.

CHAPTER XVII.

The Foreign Missionary Society.

CONSTITUTION.

Article I.

NAME.

This society shall be called the Foreign Missionary Society of the United Brethren in Christ (the legal successor of the Home, Frontier, and Foreign Missionary Society of the United Brethren in Christ in its foreign work).

Article II.

FUNCTIONS.

This society is organized for the purpose of extending the knowledge of the gospel of Christ throughout the earth by the utilization of the resources of the Church. Said society shall, through its distributed activities, promote an interest in foreign missions by approved methods in the home churches, Sunday schools, and Young People's societies. It shall disseminate information touching mission fields, it shall appoint, commission, and send forth missionaries, and conduct any and all work that properly devolves upon such a society.

Article III.

MEMBERSHIP.

Every person, by virtue of becoming a member of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, is a member of the Foreign Missionary Society.

Article IV.

ORGANIZATION.

The organization of the society shall consist of a board of directors, an executive committee, an annual conference branch society, and a committee in every local church.

Article V.

DIRECTORS AND THEIR DUTIES.

1. The board of directors shall consist of the bishops of the Church, the general secretary, six directors, who shall be

elected by the General Conference, and three directors who shall be chosen by the trustees of the Woman's Missionary Association. A majority of the members present at any regular or called meeting shall constitute a quorum.

The officers of the society shall consist of a president, to be elected at the first meeting of the directors in each quadrennium; a secretary, who shall be the general secretary elected by General Conference, and a treasurer, who shall be the General Church Treasurer. The bishops of the Church shall be vice-presidents in the order of their seniority in office.

2. The board of directors shall have charge of, and give directions to all the work of the society. The board of directors shall hold a meeting once every year, and upon the request of the executive committee, the president shall call special sessions for the transaction of important business. The board shall make by-laws to regulate the business of the society; receive and pass upon the reports of the general secretary, treasurer, minutes of the executive committee, and reports from the foreign fields; make a careful study of the needs of the work abroad and appropriate the money necessary to carry forward the entire work of the society; employ secretaries for the cultivation of the home Church; appoint foreign missionaries and fill vacancies in its own body; in connection with the bishops or any one of them, ordain missionaries to the office of elder, provided such missionaries have taken the courses of study specified by the Discipline, or their equivalent; determine the aims and methods to be pursued in enlisting the home Church in the extension of the gospel; elect four members of the executive committee, and have the use of one page in the *Religious Telescope* each week, which page shall be conducted by the general secretary, subject to the approval of the editor.

Article VI.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND ITS DUTIES.

Six members shall be chosen for the executive committee, four by the directors of the Foreign Missionary Society, and two by the trustees of the Woman's Missionary Association. The general secretary of the society shall be an *ex officio* member of the committee. The committee shall have charge of all the business of the society between the annual meetings. In the appointment of missionaries, and in making

appropriations not authorized by the board, the committee shall, through correspondence or otherwise, secure the approval of a majority of the members of the board.

Article VII.

BRANCH ORGANIZATION.

Every annual conference shall organize a branch society, auxiliary to the Foreign Missionary Society, consisting of three members, naming one as its secretary, who shall assist the general secretary in developing interest in foreign missions and securing gifts for the society.

Article VIII.

LOCAL CHURCH COMMITTEE.

A missionary committee shall be organized in every local church to interest and enlist the entire membership of the local church in the work of both home and foreign missions, and devise such methods and measures as shall develop the Church into a strong missionary agency.

Article IX.

DUTIES OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

It shall be the duty of the general secretary to keep a correct record of the society, and conduct its correspondence. He shall be the custodian of all its legal papers. He shall promote the dissemination of missionary information throughout the Church by tracts, books, and other publications; through conventions, rallies, and institutes he shall endeavor to create a missionary atmosphere; direct the organization of mission study classes; introduce missionary instruction in the Sabbath school; assist the Sabbath-school superintendent; the president of the Young People's Society, and the pastor to introduce a regular system of giving to missions.

He shall diligently study the administrative problem of the work abroad, so as to employ such agencies as shall lead to the speedy development of a strong, native Church.

The general secretary shall prepare and publish an annual report of the work of the society, and a quadrennial report to the General Conference. He shall exercise diligence to discover and encourage those whom the Holy Spirit has called to foreign missionary work, and shall bring them to the attention of the society and the executive committee for appointment. He shall call meetings of the executive com-

mittee to transact business. His salary shall be determined by the General Conference.

Article X.

THE TREASURER AND HIS DUTIES.

The General Church Treasurer, elected by the General Conference, shall hold all funds of the society subject to the order of the board or executive committee. His salary shall be fixed by the General Conference and the proportion of same to be paid by this board shall be determined by the executive committee, in conjunction with the other boards having his services; he shall make an annual report to the board, and a quadrennial report to the General Conference.

Article XI.

THE RELATION OF THE MINISTRY TO FOREIGN MISSIONS.

1. Every pastor in charge of a field of labor shall seek to organize and train the membership of his charge to become an efficient force in the world-wide extension of the gospel, by the organization of foreign mission study classes, the introduction of mission training in the Sunday school, and the promotion of the laymen's missionary movement. He shall strive earnestly to get every member of the Church to give systematically to foreign missions, and report the offerings for this cause quarterly to the conference treasurer of foreign missions. Churches, Sunday schools, and Young People's societies shall be encouraged to support foreign parishes, and share in the work of foreign mission stations.

2. The bishops of the Church and the conference superintendents or presiding elders, shall promote foreign missions by sermons and addresses and by careful inquiry concerning the work being done on the various charges for this cause; and they shall seek to develop the missionary spirit by aiding in missionary institutes and in the wide-spread study of foreign missions.

Article XII.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE TREASURER.

Every annual conference shall elect a treasurer of foreign missionary funds, who shall report quarterly the amount received for this cause to the general secretary at Dayton, Ohio, who shall make record thereof and receipt for the same.

Article XIII.

MISSIONS IN THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Every Sunday school, in its auxiliary relationship to the Home Missionary Society and the Foreign Missionary Society of our Church, is expected to observe a monthly missionary day, on which a brief missionary exercise shall be rendered and a missionary offering taken. In places where a monthly missionary day seems impracticable, every school shall be required to observe such a missionary day once a quarter.

The first and third quarters of the calendar year shall be devoted to the study of foreign missions; the second and fourth quarters to the study of home missions, the offerings during these periods to go to the respective missionary societies.

Article XIV.

A FOREIGN MISSION DISTRICT.

A foreign mission district shall consist of the missionaries under the direction of the Foreign Missionary Society, holding proper credentials; and such native workers as are associated with them, located in a specified field and organized to do mission work. Said mission district shall hold annual sessions, to be presided over by a bishop or the mission superintendent, and in the absence of both, the said district shall elect its own chairman. At its annual meeting the fields of labor shall be fixed; the character of its members examined; preachers received, and passed in their course of reading, and be ordained.

Article XV.

SUPERINTENDENTS.

When a foreign mission district is established, the mission board having supervision of the same shall appoint a mission superintendent, for a term adapted to the needs of the field, or to be terminated at the pleasure of the board.

It shall be the duty of the mission superintendent, under the direction of the board, to arrange the work and take general supervision of the entire mission district or conference. He shall report quarterly the financial condition of the mission, and from time to time represent the state of the work and its needs to the general secretary of the mission board having supervision of the same.

When expedient, a general superintendent may be appointed over two or more foreign mission districts or conferences. He shall advise with, aid the mission superintendents, and perform such other duties as shall be determined by the Board of Foreign Missions.

Article XVI.

All missionaries employed by the board shall be furnished with credentials of their appointment, and be subject to the boards in regard to their term of service, salary, and the time and length of furlough. They shall report quarterly the conditon and progress of their work to the mission superintendent; and they shall also make an annual report to the general secretary of the Mission Board, a copy of which shall be filed with the superintendent.

Article XVII.

THE MISSION COUNCIL.

There shall be a mission council in each foreign mission district or conference, composed of all foreign missionaries employed by the board in such district or conference. Said council shall be the cabinet of the mission superintendent, provided, however, that in matters of difference between the superintendent and the cabinet, a two-thirds vote of the said mission council shall determine the course to be pursued, except in matters of interpretation of the policy of the board. Missionaries shall be eligible to voting privileges in the council only after one year's residence in the mission field. The mission superintendent shall be chairman of the mission council, and also treasurer of the mission funds, unless other provision is made by the board.

The mission council shall convene once a year, and oftener if practicable, and receive reports of missionaries in charge of districts, stations or departments of work. It shall cooperate with the mission superintendent in the general supervision of the work, by committee or otherwise, especially with reference to the division of the missionaries' work, the budget, and the administration of the mission funds.

Article XVIII.

A FOREIGN MISSION CONFERENCE.

A foreign mission district may be constituted a foreign mission conference by the General Conference, or in the

interim, by the Board of Bishops, upon the recommendation of the Mission Board.

All foreign missionaries, bearing proper credentials from the Mission Board, ordained native ministers, licentiates, and one lay delegate from each charge, developing self-support according to the system adopted by the conference, may be members of the foreign mission conference.

Other workers employed may become advisory members, upon approval of the conference. Said foreign mission conference shall be presided over by a bishop or in his absence by the mission superintendent. In the absence of both the bishop and the mission superintendent, the conference shall elect its own chairman.

The presiding officer shall appoint a stationing committee, of which he shall be chairman, and he shall likewise appoint all standing committees.

Article XIX.

THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF A FOREIGN MISSION CONFERENCE.

A foreign mission conference shall have power similar to an annual conference, subject to regulations of the Mission Board. It shall revise, year by year, the list of itinerants, except those who hold membership in American conferences, and report the same to the Agent of the Publishing House, and compile other statistics of its work, as nearly as possible in harmony with the Church in general, having in mind the requirements of general missionary reports.

REPRESENTATION.

A foreign mission conference shall be entitled to representation in the General Conference as follows:

1. When a foreign mission conference has one thousand communicant members, ten duly licensed native preachers and five charges which have attained full self-support, and five charges which have reached seventy-five per cent. of self-support, it shall have representation in the General Conference in the same ratio as regular annual conferences, the delegates to be elected in the usual way, and the foreign mission conference shall pay the assessment for General Conference expenses.

2. Until the foreign mission conference has the degree of strength specified in Section 1 of this article, it shall be represented in the General Conference by one delegate, who shall

be elected by the Foreign Mission Board; and the said board shall pay the assessment for General Conference expenses.

Article XX.

COURSE OF MINISTERIAL STUDY AND RULES.

A mission conference employing other than the English or German languages shall have power to make its own course of ministerial study, as nearly as practicable an equivalent of the English course. General efficiency and practical experience, as well as moral fitness, shall be considered in recommending candidates for ordination. It may enact necessary rules for its own government in harmony with the Book of Discipline, and the regulations of the Mission Board.

CHAPTER XVIII.

The Woman's Missionary Association.

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION.

1. The name by which this corporation shall be known is "The Woman's Missionary Association of the United Brethren in Christ," and the said corporation is not for profit.

2. The principal business of the said corporation is to be transacted in the city of Dayton, county of Montgomery, State of Ohio.

3. Said corporation is formed for the purpose of engaging and uniting the efforts of women in sending missionaries into all the world, and supporting said missionaries and other laborers in said mission fields, and of securing by gift, bequest, and otherwise, the funds necessary for the purposes aforesaid.

4. Said corporation is to have no capital stock.

CONSTITUTION.

Article I.

NAME.

This association shall be known as "The Woman's Missionary Association of the United Brethren in Christ," according to its Articles of Incorporation, under the laws of the State of Ohio.

Its general offices shall be located at Dayton, Ohio.

Article II.

PURPOSES AND FUNCTIONS.

This association is for the purpose of engaging and uniting the efforts of the women, the young women, and the Junior Christian Endeavorers of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ in helping to send and support missionaries in both the foreign and the home fields, to assist in the carrying forward of the work in said fields, and of securing by gift, bequest, and otherwise, the funds necessary to aid such missionary operations. This association shall work in co-

operation with the Foreign Missionary Society and the Home Missionary Society of the United Brethren in Christ, upon whose boards and executive committees it shall have one-third representation. It shall disseminate among the women, young women, and the Junior Christian Endeavorers of the Church, literature, and information concerning the needs of the mission fields where operating, and conduct any and all other work that usually belongs to such an organization.

It is empowered by its articles of incorporation to receive by gift, bequest, or purchase, real and personal property, and hold the same for the uses and purposes of said association, the same as any other corporation of like character.

Article III.

RELATION TO THE CHURCH.

This association shall work under the direction of the General Conference of said Church, to which the general secretary shall submit quadrennial reports.

Article IV.

MEMBERSHIP.

The annual dues for membership in said association shall be $1.00.

The payment of $10.00 at one time, or by installments within five years, shall constitute a life membership.

The payment of $25.00 at one time, or by installments within five years, shall constitute a life directorship.

The payment of $100.00 at one time, or by installments within five years, shall constitute a life patronship.

A certificate is given at the time of payment in full, but this certificate does not exempt from annual dues.

Life patrons shall have all the privileges of full members of the board of managers; life directors shall be advisory members of the same. Life patrons and life directors shall have privileges of full members, and life members shall be advisory members of the branch within whose bounds they reside.

Article V.

ORGANIZATION.

The organization of this association shall consist of a board of managers, conference branch, and local societies and

bands, to be organized under the constitution for each, hereto attached.

Article VI.

BOARD OF MANAGERS.

The board of managers shall consist of the board of trustees, the life patrons, and three delegates from each branch society, who shall be elected at the branch annual meeting preceding the meeting of the board.

Said board shall meet annually at such time and place as shall be designated.

Article VII.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

The board of trustees shall consist of nine members, who shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting of the board of managers, six of whom shall be residents of Dayton, Ohio, or vicinity.

Article VIII.

DUTIES OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

The board of trustees so elected shall assemble before the close of the annual meeting of the board of managers and organize by the election of all the officers provided for in Article IX.

It shall choose from its number the necessary representation upon the boards and executive committees of the Foreign and the Home Missionary societies.

It shall appropriate funds of the association as the interests of the same may demand, and attend to the administration of the affairs of the association.

Article IX.

OFFICERS.

The officers of the association shall consist of a president, three vice-presidents, a general secretary, a recording secretary, a treasurer, and a chairman of the board of trustees, all to be elected by the board of trustees, as provided for in Article VIII. The offices of general secretary and treasurer may be held by one person.

Article X.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

1. The president shall preside at all meetings of the board of managers, and shall have general oversight of the work during the year.

In the absence of the president, one of the vice-presidents shall assume her duties, and in case no vice-president is present, a president *pro tem.* shall be elected.

2. It shall be the duty of the general secretary under the supervision of the board of trustees, to attend to all of the business connected with the association, donations, keep all documents pertaining to the association, attend to all correspondence. She shall submit annual reports to the board of managers, to the Foreign and the Home Missionary societies, and a quadrennial report to the General Conference. She shall have power to call special meetings of the board of trustees.

3. It shall be the duty of the recording secretary to keep minutes of the proceedings of the annual meeting of the board of managers, and of the regular and called meetings of the board of trustees.

4. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to receive all funds coming into the association, and transmit the same to the General Church Treasurer, by whom they are to be disbursed for work in the foreign and the home fields on orders of the executive committees of the respective societies. The administration expenses of the Woman's Missionary Association shall be under the exclusive control of the board of trustees; said expenses to be met by the General Church Treasurer, on orders from the treasurer of the Woman's Missionary Association.

5. The chairman of the board of trustees shall preside at all meetings of the trustees, and in her absence, a temporary chairman shall be elected.

Article XI.

SPECIAL FUNDS.

All donations, bequests, and funds contributed to any special object of the association, shall be held sacred to the uses and purposes intended by the donor.

Article XII.

DEPARTMENT OF LITERATURE.

1. The object of this department is fully to inform the women of the Church on the subject of missions, and thus stimulate them to greater efforts. Its office is to encourage the use of missionary literature and to increase the circulation of the Woman's Evangel, missionary leaflets, and missionary books in the study course.

2. The officers of this department shall be the general literature committee, branch secretaries of literature, and local secretaries of literature. The head of the department shall be the general literature committee. This shall be composed of three members, the department secretary, who shall be elected by the board of managers, the editor of the Evangel, and a third member who shall be appointed by the board of trustees. This committee shall choose a chairman and a treasurer.

3. This committee shall plan the work of the department, provide all the literature and helps of the Woman's Missionary Association except the Woman's Evangel. Through the department secretary of literature, this committee shall send out plans and suggestions to branch secretaries of literature, assist in developing the work in the branches, and make an annual report to the board of managers. All money received from the sale of literature shall be retained by the general committee for the maintenance of the work. When necessary, an appropriation shall be granted them from the surplus Evangel fund.

Article XIII.

DEPARTMENT OF YOUNG WOMEN.

1. The object of this department shall be to enlist the young women in the cause of missions, to lead them to personal consecration, and to raise funds for missionary work.

2. The head of this department shall be a secretary who shall be elected by the board of managers.

3. The secretary shall send out plans and suggestions to branch secretaries of young women, aid in developing the work in the branches, conduct the Young Woman's Department in the Evangel, subject to the approval of the editor. She shall make an annual report to the board of managers.

Article XIV.

DEPARTMENT OF JUNIOR CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR.

1. The purpose of this department shall be to educate the children in missionary work, and to train them in definite prayer, and systematic giving for missions.

2. The head of this department shall be a secretary who shall be elected by the board of managers.

3. It shall be the duty of the secretary to send out plans and suggestions to Junior missionary superintendents, and develop the work of this department, and she shall work in harmony with the general superintendent of Junior Christian Endeavor. She shall prepare programs for the monthly missionary meetings, have charge of the Junior department in the Evangel, subject to the approval of the editor. She shall make an annual report to the board of managers.

Article XV.

METHOD OF AMENDMENT.

This constitution may be altered or amended at any annual meeting of the board of managers, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

BRANCH CONSTITUTION.

Article I.

This society shall be called the ..... Conference Branch of the Woman's Missionary Association of the United Brethren in Christ.

Article II.

The object of this society is to awaken an interest among women, young women, and the Junior Christian Endeavorers in behalf of Christian missions, and to raise funds for their support.

Article III.

The membership of this society shall consist of the members of the association within the limits of this conference district.

Article IV.

1. The officers of this society shall be a president, two vice-presidents, a secretary, a treasurer, a secretary of literature, and a secretary of young women, who shall consti-

tute an executive committee to supervise the entire work of the association within the conference district. It shall be their duty to make earnest efforts to secure the organization of local societies in all the United Brethren congregations within the bounds of the conference.

2. The duties of the president shall be those usual to the office.

3. In the absence of the president, the vice-president shall assume her duties.

4. It shall be the duty of the secretary of this society to keep a correct record of its proceedings, and the proceedings of the executive committee, and submit an annual report to the general secretary of the board of managers not less than ten days before the annual meeting of the board.

5. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to receive and hold the funds of the society, and transmit the same quarterly to the treasurer of the board, the last remittance to be sent in not less than ten days before the meeting of the board of managers.

All moneys given by any woman's organization for either foreign or home missions shall be sent to the branch treasurer.

The branch treasurer shall submit quarterly reports to the conference foreign and home missionary treasurers in order that the charge may have due credit in the missionary standards as adopted by the missionary boards.

6. The branch secretary of literature shall have oversight of the work in her department. She shall select and secure missionary literature and helps for sale during the year, and supply the sales table which she shall conduct at the branch meeting. She shall see by correspondence, that a secretary of literature is established in each local, and plan for the extension of the work. She shall increase the circulation of the Woman's Evangel, endeavor to obtain a wider reading of missionary leaflets, and urge the use of the books of the mission study course. She shall keep a record of the work of the literature department in the locals, make annual reports to the branch, and to the department secretary of literature.

7. The branch secretary of young women shall develop the work of this department in her branch. She shall make quarterly reports to the branch secretary in an annual report to the secretary of the young woman's department.

Article V.

This society shall hold annual meetings to elect its officers and members of the board of managers, and to transact any business pertaining to its work. Its members shall consist of the officers and three delegates from each local society, two delegates from each Young Woman's Band, two delegates from each Junior Christian Endeavor Society, the life patrons and life directors of said branch. The life members of the branch shall be advisory members.

Article VI.

This society shall provide for the expenses of its delegates to the annual meeting of the board of managers by a contingent fund derived from the locals within the branch.

LOCAL CONSTITUTION

Article I.

This society shall be called the ..... Local Society of ..... Branch Society of the Woman's Missionary Association of the United Brethren in Christ. Any woman may become a member of the same by consenting to the constitution of said association.

Article II.

The officers of this society shall consist of a president, two vice-presidents, a secretary, a treasurer, a secretary of literature, and two or more collectors.

Article III.

1. The duties of the president shall be those usual to the office.

2. In the absence of the president, the vice-president shall assume her duties.

3. It shall be the duty of the secretary to keep a record of the proceedings of each meeting, the name of the members, the life members, life directors, and life patrons, and report quarterly to the secretary of the branch society.

4. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to hold all moneys of the society and transmit quarterly all funds except the local contingent, to the treasurer of the branch society.

5. The local secretary of literature shall keep the society informed as to the best missionary literature and urge the purchase of sufficient quantity to supply the needs of the

society. She shall secure and maintain the largest number of Evangel subscriptions possible, and urge the use of the mission study course. She shall keep in touch and work in harmony with the plans of the branch secretary of literature, and report to her at least annually.

6. It shall be the duty of the collectors to visit members of the church and solicit names, collect quarterly dues, and report the number of visits and amount collected, at each quarterly meeting.

Article IV.

1. Any young woman may become a member of this society by the payment of five cents per month.

2. Any child may become a member by the payment of two cents per month.

Article V.

This society shall meet quarterly for business, and shall arrange its year with reference to the annual meeting of the branch society.

Article VI.

This society shall appoint a missionary superintendent of Junior Christian Endeavor, who shall have charge of this department of said society, hold the missionary funds, and report quarterly to the treasurer of the local society.

Article VII.

Any man may become an honorary member by the payment of regular dues.

CONSTITUTION FOR YOUNG WOMEN'S MISSION BANDS.

Article I.

This society shall be called the Young Women's Mission Band of .....

Article II.

The object of this society shall be to enlist young women in the cause of missions, to lead them to personal consecration, and to raise funds for the Woman's Missionary Association.

Article III.

Any young woman may become a member of this society by the payment of five cents per month.

Article IV.

The officers of this society shall be a president, two vice-presidents, a secretary, a treasurer, a secretary of literature, and two or more collectors.

Article V.

The president shall preside at all meetings and have general oversight of the society.

Article VI.

The vice-presidents shall act in their order in the absence of the president.

Article VII.

The secretary shall keep a record of members; keep minutes of each meeting, and give notice of meetings. She shall send quarterly reports, also an annual report, with the names of the officers, to the branch secretary of Young Women.

Article VIII.

The treasurer shall receive all funds and render a report each month. She shall transmit all moneys quarterly except the local contingent, to the branch treasurer.

BY-LAWS.

1. This band shall hold regular meetings once a month. The annual meeting shall be in March, so as to send reports through branch officers to the board of managers. At this meeting, officers shall be elected for the ensuing year and annual reports be read.

2. This band shall be entitled to two delegates to the branch meeting, who shall be elected at the meeting preceding the branch meeting.

3. By young women, is meant, women above fifteen years.

4. Any young man may become an honorary member by the payment of regular dues.

These by-laws may be supplemented according to local needs.

CHAPTER XIX.

Women's Aid Society.

CONSTITUTION.

Article I.

ORGANIZATION.

When at any time an opportunity presents itself for the organization of a sufficient number of women (who are members or friends of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ) into a society for mutual aid in promoting the spiritual, social, financial, and intellectual interests of a congregation or charge, it shall be the duty of the pastor or the presiding elder of the district to call together the women of the congregation or charge, and, after securing the names of all present wishing to become members of the organization, he shall proceed to organize, by having elected by ballot a president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer, whose duties shall be those usually devolving upon such officers.

Article II.

NAME.

This organization shall be known as the Women's Aid Society of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ at ———————— ————.

Article III.

ANNUAL ELECTION.

The officers of this society shall be elected by ballot annually, at its last meeting preceding the session of the annual conference, and the officers elect shall assume the duties of their offices at the first meeting succeeding the session of the annual conference, at which time the secretary shall turn over to the secretary-elect all books and papers belonging to the society, and the treasurer shall make settlement with, and turn over to the treasurer-elect all funds belonging to the society.

The president of this society, when a member of the Church, shall be a member of the quarterly conference.

Article IV.

MEMBERSHIP.

Any woman of good standing, friendly to the work of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ may become a member of the society.

Article V.

MEETINGS.

The regular meetings of the society shall be at least once each month, and oftener when any interest demands it.

The meetings shall always open and close with devotional exercises, and the deliberations shall be conducted according to the usages of the Church.

In case of the absence of the president and vice-president, the secretary shall call the meeting to order, and proceed to the election of a president *pro tem.*, whose official acts shall be valid.

Article VI.

DUES.

Each member of the society shall pay into the treasury of the same the regular monthly dues agreed upon by the society, and in case a member shall fail to pay for six consecutive months, unless unable to do so, her name may be erased from the roll of the society.

Article VII.

DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS.

All moneys collected on dues, or otherwise, by the society, shall be used for the benefit of the congregation, or charge, or for any benevolent purpose, as the society may direct.

Article VIII.

CHRISTIAN VISITATION.

In order to promote the work of Christianity among the families under our influence, the members of the society may arrange, so as to have all such families visited at least once a month, by dividing the homes to be visited into districts and one or two go to each home, look after the

sick, invite persons to the various services of the church, and report to the pastor or leader all persons whose interest demands immediate attention.

This is not to be substituted for the leaders nor for pastoral visiting, but to aid them in their work.

CHAPTER XX.

Church Erection Society.

CONSTITUTION.

Article I.

NAME.

This society shall be known as the "Church Erection Society of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ," located in Dayton, Ohio.

Article II.

MEMBERSHIP.

All members of the United Brethren Church shall be members of this society; further, any person paying $1,000 at one time, or in four annual payments of $250 each, shall be an advisory life director. The secretary shall prepare and furnish to such advisory life directors a certificate as evidence of such directorship, signed by the president and secretary.

Article III.

OBJECT.

The object of this society shall be to assist congregations in locating and erecting houses of worship and parsonages.

Article IV.

OFFICERS.

The officers of this society shall consist of nine directors, four of whom shall be laymen, a corresponding secretary, and the General Church Treasurer, who shall be elected by the General Conference. The bishops shall be directors of this society *ex officio*.

These officers and directors shall constitute a board of managers, who shall meet immediately on adjournment of the General Conference on the call of the corresponding secretary, and organize by electing a president and vice-president.

The corresponding secretary shall be the recording secretary of the board.

Article V.

MEETINGS.

The annual meeting of the board of managers shall be held at such time and place as the board itself may decide. Other meetings may be held at such time and place as may be designated by the president and corresponding secretary. Five members shall constitute a quorum.

Article VI.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

1. The president shall preside at all meetings of the board, and perform all duties usual to the office. In the absence of the president, the vice-president shall preside.

2. The corresponding secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of the board, conduct its correspondence, and devote himself to the work of securing funds and otherwise attending to the interests of the society as the board may direct. He shall submit an annual report to the board of managers and a quadrennial report to the General Conference. The salary of such secretary shall be fixed by the General Conference.

3. The treasurer shall hold the funds of the society subject to the order of the board.

4. The board of managers shall hold annual meetings, appoint an executive committee of not less than five, make by-laws to regulate its business, loan money to churches, appropriate money to defray incidental expenses, and publish such matter from time to time as the cause may require. It shall be the duty of the board of managers, in case of vacancy in the office of secretary, from death, resignation, or otherwise, to appoint his successor as soon as practicable, who shall serve till the following General Conference.

Article VII.

BRANCH SOCIETIES.

1. Each annual conference of the Church is hereby constituted a branch of the general society and shall elect a board of directors of not less than five of its members. This board shall organize by electing a president, secretary, and treasurer. It shall also adopt rules of regulation for its government in harmony with the rules and government

of the general board. The branch secretary and treasurer shall submit annual reports to their conference boards and to the secretary of the general board by April first of each year.

2. The board of directors, in conjunction with the presiding elder, may take charge of the property of the church which becomes vacant and control the same so as to subserve the best interests of the conference.

Article VIII.

EASTER OFFERING.

1. It shall be the duty of each annual conference to make it incumbent upon every pastor and all of our churches to observe Church Erection Day on or about Easter, at which time offerings shall be taken in all our churches, Sunday schools, and Young People's societies for Church Erection. An average of ten cents per member shall be the minimum standard to be obtained for this purpose.

2. When desired by pastors, the general secretary shall furnish envelopes and literature for the Easter offerings.

3. In churches where the budget plan is in vogue, ten cents per member of said church shall be apportioned for Church Erection.

Article IX.

RECEIPTS OF TREASURER.

The General Church Treasurer shall receipt for all money sent him by the various conference treasurers.

Article X.

APPLICATION FOR LOANS.

Application for loans from this society shall be made to the general secretary, through the officers of the branch society; provided, however, that in the locating and erection of houses of worship no board of trustees applying for aid from the parent board shall receive a loan from said board until the location has received the approval of the conference board.

Article XI.

GRANTING OF LOANS.

1. The board shall make no appropriations where there is reasonable prospect that the church asking aid can suc-

ceed without it, or where there is no prospect of gathering a good church membership.

2. Funds shall not be loaned to any church until the church property is secured by deed as provided for in the Discipline; nor shall loans be made to churches until their trustees have forwarded an abstract of the title of their property, certificate of release of all mechanics' liens and other incumbrances, and their notes, secured by the first mortgage on the premises properly recorded in the records of the courts, for the inspection of the board of managers, or executive committee.

3. A record of all loans placed by the general board on churches and parsonages shall be kept by the secretary of the branch society in conferences where such churches and parsonages are located.

4. The branch society shall assist the general board in promptly securing all loans as they become due on churches and parsonages within its jurisdiction.

Article XII.

DUTY OF THE MINISTRY.

1. Each pastor shall present the interests of church erection to his people during the year, and distribute such literature as may be furnished by the secretary and board of managers.

2. The presiding elder shall direct attention to the interests of the society at quarterly meetings, and shall advise with the pastors as to the best methods of securing the Easter offerings in full. They shall also interest themselves in securing special gifts and bequests from those who may be able to give.

Article XIII.

GRANT FUND.

A grant fund shall be opened. Through this fund fifty per cent. of the Easter offerings received from each annual conference shall be refunded to its branch treasurer by the General Church Treasurer, when desired; said fund to be applied at the discretion of the branch society.

Article XIV.

INSURANCE.

1. The trustees of any church or parsonage which receives a loan from the Church Erection Society shall be

required to secure said property from loss by fire in some reliable insurance company in favor of said Church Erection Society.

Article XV.

PARSONAGE FUND.

1. The parsonage fund shall be under the control of the general Church Erection Society. Loans from this fund to aid in building parsonages shall be made on the same regulations that loans are made on churches.

2. All our Ladies' Aid Societies and kindred organizations shall be requested to make annual contributions to the general parsonage fund. Where such societies do not exist, the pastors shall each year appoint one or more women in their congregation or congregations to solicit money for said fund.

3. It shall be the duty of the Church-Erection Secretary to include in his annual report to the board of managers a full statement of new funds received and loans returned, together with the number of parsonages added during the year.

Article XVI.

ADMINISTRATION OF FUNDS.

1. All moneys collected for the various funds of Church Erection shall be paid to the treasurer of the branch society who shall promptly remit the same to the General Church Treasurer.

2. All special donations and bequests shall go direct to the treasurer of the general board.

Article XVII.

LOT FUND.

1. This fund shall be applied for the purchasing of desirable lots in strategic towns and cities of the various conferences where we have no churches, said lots to be gifts to the local churches that may be organized in such places. If at any time a church to which a lot has been donated from this fund should be abandoned, said lot shall revert to the general Church Erection Society.

2. This fund shall be created and sustained by levying an annual interest of two per cent. on all loans hereafter granted.

3. It shall be available when $5,000 has accrued in its treasury.

NOTE.—For the election and duties of the treasurer of this society, see Chapter V., Section X., page 45.

CHAPTER XXI.

Printing Establishment and Church Publications.

Section I.

PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT.

Name.

1. This establishment shall be called "The Printing Establishment of the United Brethren in Christ."

Election of Officers.

2. The controlling authority herein granted shall be vested in the General Conference of said Church, whose duty it shall be to elect the necessary agents and editors, and fix their salaries, and make or amend such rules as in its judgment it may deem expedient.

Trustees—Election and Duties.

3. The General Conference shall elect a board of nine trustees to serve for four years, or until their successors are elected; provided, that at least three of the number shall be residents of Dayton or its vicinity.

4. The board of trustees thus elected shall, during the interval of the General Conferences, take the oversight of the Printing Establishment. They shall meet annually, or oftener if need be, in the Publishing House in Dayton, Ohio, on the call of their president. They shall also select a local committee of three of their number, from among those residing in Dayton or its vicinity.

5. The local committee shall take the oversight of the establishment during the intervals of the meetings of the board of trustees. It shall meet monthly, or oftener if need be, and shall have power to order expenses curtailed in any department of the Publishing House; and should there arise a difference of opinion between the Agent and the editor of any of the publications as to what shall appear in the columns of any paper, the committee shall decide the matter; it shall also decide what books that have been approved by the book committee shall be published by the House, and transact such other business as may come before it.

6. The board of trustees shall have full power at any meeting to discontinue any periodical when the interests of the Church or Printing Establishment demand it; such action shall, however, not be taken except by a two-thirds vote of the board; and then the office and salary of the editor or editors shall cease.

7. It shall be the duty of the trustees to see that the Agent and editors properly and faithfully discharge their duties. In case of dereliction of duty, they may suspend the delinquent party or parties from office until the General Conference; provided, however, that no one shall be suspended until a copy of the complaints in writing has been presented to the accused, and an opportunity given for defense before the board of trustees.

8. The trustees may make any by-laws which may seem to them expedient for the regulation of the minor concerns of the Printing Establishment, provided they are not inconsistent with any General Conference rule.

9. That the editors, Publishing Agent, and trustees are authorized to make such changes and improvements in our literature during the quadrennium as may be necessary, and also to adjust any discrepancies between the periodicals in size and prices.

Duties of Publishing Agent.

10. It shall be the duty of the Agent to supervise and manage the business of the Printing Establishment, under the direction of the board of trustees; to regulate the publications and all other affairs of the House, except that which pertains to the editorial departments, in such manner as the interests of the Church may require. He shall also furnish to the local committee, at each monthly meeting, a full and satisfactory statement of all the business transactions of the previous month; and, if desired by the committee, he shall present for examination all books, vouchers, and papers, and afford the committee every means and facility for a full and intelligent understanding of the business of the Publishing House. He shall keep separate accounts with each department of the business, and also each periodical published, and carry into effect all of the instructions of the board of trustees and local committee.

11. The Agent and local committee shall annually take an account of stock, including in the inventory all the

assets, of whatever nature, of the Printing Establishment at their estimated cash value, except the real estate, which shall be appraised by the local committee of the board of trustees at the end of each quadrennium, and the valuation shall not be changed prior to the close of the succeeding quadrennium except by the purchase or sale, improvement or destruction of property. Such inventory shall also contain a full and detailed statement of all liabilities, profits, and losses. The Agent and board of trustees shall have full control of credits and collections.

12. The Agent shall prepare and publish a report of the condition of the Printing Establishment annually, in the *Religious Telescope*, and shall also make a report to the General Conference. He shall make arrangements for *verbatim* reports of the proceedings of the General Conference for publication.

Vacancies.

13. Should any vacancy occur in any of the offices of the Printing Establishment, or in the board of trustees, the trustees shall fill such vacancy until the sitting of the succeeding General Conference.

Employment of Time.

14. No editor or officer employed in the Printing Establishment shall accept any office or engage in any business which will interfere with the duties of his office.

Proceeds.

15. The profits of the Printing Establishment, after a sufficient capital to carry on the business is retained, shall be applied to the benefit of traveling and worn-out itinerant preachers and their widows and orphans. (For method of distribution, see Ministerial Relief Bureau, page 70, Section IV., item 2, "Source of Income.")

Section II.

Church Publications.

Book Committee.

1. That the book committee be composed of the editor of the *Religious Telescope*, editor of the *Watchword*, editor of the Sabbath-school literature, the professor of theology in Bonebrake Theological Seminary, and the Publishing Agent.

The latter shall receive all manuscripts and have power to call the committee, and without the sanction of the book committee no book shall be published in the name of the Church or Publishing House during the intervals of the General Conference. The Agent and local committee shall select a Book Editor.

Authorship of Doctrinal Publications.

2. No one of our preachers or laymen shall become the author of any doctrinal book or pamphlet, in a printed form, in the name of the Church, without the approbation of the book committee or the annual conference, or of a committee chosen by the latter. If any preacher or layman violates this rule, he shall be accountable to the class or to the quarterly or annual conference, as the case may be.

CHAPTER XXII.

Education.

Section I.

BOARD OF EDUCATION—CONSTITUTION.

The Board of Education of the United Brethren in Christ shall consist of nine members to be elected by the General Conference, who shall hold office for four years. In addition, the bishops shall be members *ex officio* of this board. Five members shall constitute a quorum. This board shall direct and supervise the general educational work of the Church under the rules and regulations enacted by the General Conference.

Organization.

1. The officers of the board shall be a president and secretary, who shall be elected by the board at the first session immediately after the adjournment of General Conference, and these officers shall hold office until the next General Conference.

2. The secretary may be any competent member of the Church, and, if elected from outside the board, shall be an advisory member.

3. This secretary is to devote such portion of his time to the work of the board as it may direct, his compensation to be fixed by the board.

4. There shall be at least one session of the board each year. Special meetings of the board may be called by the president, upon the request of five members.

5. In the case of vacancy occurring in the board, by death or otherwise, the board shall have power to fill the vacancy, the election to be by ballot, and the person elected to hold office until the next meeting of the General Conference.

Objects.

6. The objects of this board shall be:

GENERAL AIM.

(1) To assist in every way the cause of higher education in the Church, to awaken and stimulate an interest in

this important work throughout the borders of our Zion, to encourage and aid our educational institutions that are striving to bring the Church to greater efficiency, and to unite the friends of education in their efforts, that greater unity of plan may be secured, and the forces of the Church combined to give our people advantages commensurate with the needs of the present day.

BENEFICIARY AID.

(2) To raise funds by collection, donation, or bequest, to aid by loan, without interest, as the executive committee may determine, in educating, in both their collegiate and theological courses, worthy young persons who are preparing themselves for the work of the gospel ministry, or as missionaries in the United Brethren Church; provided, however, that the board shall have power to receive money and use it for other educational purposes, as donors may direct.

PUBLICATIONS.

(3) To seek by the publication of tracts, pamphlets, addresses, or books upon educational questions, to diffuse among our members a more general knowledge of the value of a sanctified education and of a well-instructed ministry, and thereby awaken in them a better appreciation of our institutions of learning, and of the obligations resting upon them to give of their substance for their support.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

(4) To make an annual report of the general and financial condition of the colleges and other educational institutions of the Church; to make such recommendations to the managers of these institutions as will tend to make them more effective; to secure, as far as may seem desirable, harmony of courses of study between preparatory schools and colleges and universities.

ESTABLISHMENT OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES.

(5) To discourage the multiplication of schools and colleges where they cannot be properly supported. Conferences, or a conference wishing to establish, relocate, or change the grade of a school, shall first counsel with the Board of Education, both as to the advisability of the measure proposed, and also as to the method and location, and

any school started without the sanction of this board shall not be recognized as a Church school. The board shall make inquiry as to the number of schools within different communities, and where found to be too numerous, the board shall institute measures for combination and concentration of their resources and efforts.

Collections.

7. To accomplish these results, an annual offering shall be taken in the month of June, or at such other time as the presiding elder of any district may deem most suitable. The preacher in charge, or some other competent person, shall first preach a sermon or make appropriate remarks concerning the object, plans, and work of this board, and then take a collection in such manner as will secure the largest amount of funds. If the board thinks best, it may apportion the amount to be raised by the various conferences, according to their number and ability, and the conferences in turn shall make these apportionments to their respective fields of labor, and the funds thus raised shall be sent to the General Church Treasurer.

Recommendations for Aid.

8. Young persons aided by this board must first be recommended as suitable persons to receive aid, by the conference in whose bounds they live, or to which they belong; or by the Board of Missions, when the applicant does not reside within the bounds of any conference; or by an educational committee appointed by the conference, to whom all requests for aid, not acted upon by conference, or which shall occur during the *interim* of its sessions shall be referred.

Delinquents.

9. No person having received aid from the Board of Education may be granted an honorable dismissal by his his conference until he shall have made satisfactory settlement with the board. The bishops are directed to enforce this provision.

Executive Committee and By-Laws.

10. The board shall have power to appoint an executive committee from its own body, and to make such by-laws to regulate its own proceedings, and take such other meas-

ures to accomplish the object of its creation, as shall not be inconsistent with this constitution.

Education Day.

11. There shall be observed annually in each congregation an Education Day, at which time pastor and people shall give special attention to the educational interests of the Church. The churches and schools shall each year observe the Day of Prayer for Students.

Quadrennial Report.

12. The board, through its secretary, shall make to the General Conference a report of all the work done during the preceding four years, including money received by collections, bequests, or otherwise, the amount paid out, and the purposes for which it was paid. The board may propose to the General Conference, from time to time, such plans as it may consider useful or necessary for the success of the work committed to it.

13. No addition or amendments to the provisions of this constitution shall be made except by consent of a majority of the members of the General Conference present at any of its sessions. Notice of any proposed addition or amendment shall be given at least one day previous to its consideration.

SECTION II.

ACADEMIES.

In this day of excellent high schools in many parts of our country, academies should be located judiciously, and should confine their literary courses of study to such branches of learning as will prepare for entrance upon the freshman or sophomore year of the best colleges. An academy doing such work is greatly preferable to an inferior college. No new academy shall be undertaken with a less sum than twenty-five thousand dollars.

SECTION III.

COLLEGES.

1. The success of our church work is connected vitally with the colleges of the Church. In these our youth are developed and equipped in mind and heart for the work of effective service to humanity.

2. The ministry and laity should earnestly use their power to have as many young people as possible attend our own institutions of learning, and to encourage persons to give liberally of their means for the more thorough establishment and equipment of our educational institutions.

3. For the purpose of greater unity and efficiency in our educational work, the General Conference directs that the length of a course of study leading to degrees be three years in the preparatory department and four years in the college, and asks all the schools in the Church to adopt this standard.

4. No college shall be founded except upon the demand of an imperative necessity, or with a less sum of money than one hundred thousand dollars, of which fifty thousand dollars shall be a permanent and productive endowment, and whose title shall be in fee simple to the Church of the United Brethren in Christ. As to Christian education, the divine Word aptly declares: "Wisdom is a defence, and money is a defence; but the excellency of knowledge is, that wisdom giveth life to them that have it."

5. It is advised that any conference coöperating with any of our institutions of learning remain therewith until there be an equitable adjustment of all outstanding obligations of such institution, either as may be determined by such conference and the trustees of the institution, or by the Board of Education.

6. It is recommended that the several presidents and principals of our institutions of learning be *ex officio* members of the local official bodies which govern the said institutions.

7. We direct that the endowment funds of our institutions of learning be kept sacred for the purposes for which they were given, and not dissipated and jeopardized by loans to the contingent fund of the institution and spent for current expenses, and we recommend that these funds of our institutions be not loaned to the members of the board, or officers or teachers of the institution, or others who are personally interested in the care and safe-keeping of these funds.

8. We cordially endorse and approve the best method of industrial education as applied in those institutions where mechanical and other equipment is provided for this purpose, and recommend that this practical training and self-

help be secured for those who desire it, as soon as practicable.

College Extension Courses.

9. In view of the fact that many of our ministers and laymen who find it impossible to go away to school, would be glad to pursue a course of study, and in view of the university and college extension movement now organized in most of the schools of higher education in our land, we recommend:

(1) That all our colleges offer such non-resident courses of study as they may be able to teach, for the aid and encouragement of the above-named class of students.

(2) That these students be examined thoroughly on their courses of study, and that suitable diplomas be awarded those who complete their work to the satisfaction of the respective colleges.

10. We recommend that our institutions of learning provide such instruction as shall prepare their students to become leaders of song in church and Sunday school.

11. We recommend that our institutions of learning give greater emphasis to the training of their young people for different phases of religious work.

Section IV.

BONEBRAKE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

1. This institution of sacred learning, located at Dayton, Ohio, is maintained by the United Brethren in Christ for the purpose of educating persons called of God to the work of the ministry and the spread of the gospel of Christ among men. It shall be under the control of the General Conference of the United Brethren in Christ, by which its board of directors shall be elected at each quadrennial session.

Officers.

2. The officers of the Seminary shall consist of a business manager and a board of directors, who shall be elected by the General Conference. The board of directors shall be composed of not less than nine members, and may have three additional members at large, at least one of whom shall be a representative of the alumni, to be elected by the board of directors, at their option, for a term not extending beyond the session of the ensuing General Conference,

and the bishops of the Church, who shall be considered *ex officio* members; provided, always, that a majority of the directors shall be *bona fide* residents of the State of Ohio.

Duties of Directors.

3. The board of directors shall meet on the call of the senior bishop immediately after their election, and organize by electing a president and secretary. The board of active bishops shall act as vice-presidents in the order of their seniority. They shall meet annually in the Seminary building at Dayton, Ohio, elect a president and the necessary faculty, review the work of the business manager and the faculty, determine the salaries of the faculty, and adopt measures for the advancement of the interests of the institution.

4. The board of directors may fill any vacancy caused by the resignation, removal, or refusal to serve of the business manager or trustees.

5. The board shall elect four persons who, together with the business manager, shall constitute the executive committee, which shall meet on call of the chairman and transact business for the institution in accord with the orders and plans of the board of directors.

6. The board of directors shall make to the General Conference a report of its work, giving such facts in connection with the Seminary as it may deem of importance.

Business Manager.

7. The business manager shall reside in Dayton, Ohio, and shall manage the assets under the direction of the executive committee, have charge of all the property, and manage the business of the institution. He shall solicit, and, with the consent and approval of the board of directors, or executive committee, employ others to solicit contributions to the Seminary. In the name of the Bonebrake Theological Seminary, and under its corporate seal, the business manager shall execute all deeds of transfer and other legal documents which may be authorized by the board of directors or its executive committee. He shall report to the board of directors annually, and to the General Conference, an account of all receipts and expenditures, and the standing and efficiency of the institution, with any other important facts or recommendations.

The Custodian of Funds.

8. The General Church Treasurer shall receive and disburse on order the funds of the Seminary.

Endowment and Other Funds.

9. All moneys or values of any kind given to the Seminary as an endowment shall be held sacred as a permanent fund and securely invested, the interest only to be used in the maintenance of the Seminary. All other funds shall be used as the interests of the Seminary may require or as the donors may direct.

Annual Collections.

10. The annual apportionment to the whole number of annual conferences for the benefit of the Seminary shall be $10,000. This amount shall be apportioned by the board of directors to the several annual conferences, and by the conferences apportioned to the several charges, to be collected by the pastors and reported to their respective conferences; and it shall be the duty of the presiding bishop to see that the full amount of the assessment is properly apportioned to the respective charges. Ten per cent. of the funds thus secured may be used for the support of the library in the Seminary.

Obligation of Faculty.

11. Each professor chosen to a chair in the Seminary shall, upon the day of his inauguration, publicly subscribe to the following declaration of faith and obligation:

I solemnly declare, in the presence of God and the officers of Bonebrake Theological Seminary, that I believe the Holy Scriptures, Old and New Testaments, to be the inspired Word of God, and, with the Holy Spirit, the only perfect rule of faith and practice. I believe the Confession of Faith, as contained in the thirteen articles in our Book of Discipline, to be a truthful consensus of the fundamental doctrines of the Bible. I believe that the system of church government, as presented in the Book of Discipline of the United Brethren in Christ, is consistent with the teachings of the sacred Scriptures, and I solemnly promise that I will not teach or insinuate anything that shall in any way be inconsistent with the foregoing declaration, or that is not in harmony with the Constitution and Confession of Faith

and the rules of the Church as set forth in the Discipline of the United Brethren in Christ. I also promise, by divine assistance, to the best of my ability, to sustain the doctrines of the Holy Scriptures as thus set forth by the Church, in opposition to all forms of error, as long as I shall remain a professor in this institution.

[Name].....

Entrance Examination.

12. The faculty may require candidates for admission to the Seminary to pass any examinations deemed necessary to determine their fitness, and arrange for examinations in the respective conferences without expense to candidates, provided that no person shall be permitted to enter the regular course of study who has not had a high-school course or its fair equivalent.

Postgraduate Studies.

13. The faculty may arrange postgraduate courses of reading to cover one, two, or three years, for the successful completion of which appropriate seals shall be placed upon the diplomas of alumni. The examination shall be by correspondence, or otherwise, as the faculty may arrange.

CHAPTER XXIII.

Historical Society.

Section I.

GENERAL CONFERENCE APPROVAL.

1. The Historical Society of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, located at Dayton, Ohio, having for its object the collecting and preserving of papers, records, books, and other materials bearing upon the history of the Church, has the recognition of the General Conference.

2. Said society shall, through its officers, make quadrennial reports to the General Conference.

Section II.

CONSTITUTION.

Article I.

NAME.

The name of this society shall be, The Historical Society of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ.

Article II.

OBJECT.

Its object shall be, to collect and preserve information in connection with the rise and progress of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ; also, objects of curiosity and interest, in the form of manuscripts, books, pamphlets, medals, portraits, etc.

Article III.

LOCATION.

The business headquarters, the museum, and library of the society shall be located in Dayton, Ohio.

Article IV.

MEMBERS.

1. Any person approved by the board of managers may become a member upon the payment of an initiatory fee

of one dollar, and may retain membership by contributing one dollar annually thereafter. In case of failure to pay fees within six months after they are due, membership shall be forfeited.

2. Any person approved by the board of managers may, by the payment of ten dollars, become a life member, and shall be exempt from the payment of the annual fee.

3. The board of managers shall have power to appoint a corresponding member within each of the annual conferences of the Church; but, at the request of the board of managers, a corresponding member may be elected by an annual conference. Other corresponding members may be elected by the board, at their option.

4. Any person considered worthy of the honor may, by the board of managers, be elected to honorary membership, without fees.

Article V.

OFFICERS.

1. The officers shall consist of a president, first, second, and third vice-presidents, secretary, librarian, and a board of managers consisting of these officers and eight other members. The General Church Treasurer is, by enactment of General Conference, the treasurer of the society.

2. These officers shall be elected at each regular annual meeting, and shall serve until their successors have been duly elected.

3. The election of officers shall be conducted by ballot, unless there be but one nomination, in which case the election shall be by acclamation.

4. In voting by ballot, no votes shall be counted except those cast by members present at the meeting, for persons nominated, and a majority of all votes cast shall be necessary to election.

5. The board of managers shall have power to fill vacancies.

Article VI.

DUTIES AND PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS.

1. It shall be the duty of members of every class to promote the interests of the society in every way possible, by securing for the society such information and such articles as will be of value in accomplishing the purpose of the organization.

2. Annual and life members shall be entitled to all the privileges of the society, including admission to the museum and library. Corresponding and honorary members shall be entitled to admission to the museum and library.

Article VII.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

1. The duties of the president, vice-presidents, secretary, and treasurer shall be such as are usually performed by these officers.

2. The librarian shall be the custodian of the property of the society, and shall manage it according to the rules adopted by the board of managers.

3. The board of managers shall have charge of all the interests of the society in the interim of the annual meetings. They shall meet quarterly. Special meetings may be called by the president. Five shall constitute a quorum.

4. The treasurer, librarian, and board of managers shall render reports to the society at the annual meeting.

Article VIII.

PROPERTY.

All the property of the society, except its funds, shall be deposited in a room or rooms provided for the purpose, and shall be open for the inspection of the members of the society and others, under such restrictions and regulations as may be adopted by the board of managers; and in no case shall any article of any kind be removed from the museum or depository, except by order of the board of managers, and then only for a limited time. The depository shall contain, under the same restrictions and regulations, for the benefit of the members, a library, to be formed as rapidly as circumstances will permit.

Article IX.

FUNDS.

1. All funds, after necessary expenses are paid, shall be appropriated to the enlargement and preservation of the museum and library.

2. All bequests of money made to the society shall be funded under the direction of the board of managers, and the interest thereof used for ordinary expenses.

Article X.

MEETINGS.

The society shall meet annually for the purpose of electing officers and transacting other necessary business. Twenty-five shall constitute a quorum. The time of meeting of the society and the board shall be determined by the board.

Article XI.

AMENDMENTS.

This constitution may be amended at any annual meeting by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided that the proposed amendment shall have been previously approved by the board of managers, and published in the *Religious Telescope.*

PART VII.

BOUNDARIES.

CHAPTER XXIV.

BISHOPS' DISTRICTS.[1]

1. EAST DISTRICT.

Allegheny, East Pennsylvania, Erie, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, East Ohio, Southeast Ohio, Miami, West Africa, and Porto Rico.

II. CENTRAL DISTRICT.

Sandusky, Indiana, White River, St. Joseph, Michigan, Ohio German, Lower Wabash, Northern Illinois, Wisconsin, and Minnesota.

III. WEST DISTRICT.

Iowa State, Missouri, Northeast Kansas, Southwest Kansas, Northwest Kansas, Neosho, East Nebraska, West Nebraska, North Nebraska, Colorado, Oklahoma, North Texas.

IV. PACIFIC DISTRICT.

Oregon, Columbia River, California, China, Japan, and Philippine Islands.

V. SOUTHERN DISTRICT.

Kentucky, East Tennessee, West Tennessee, Chickamauga, Louisiana, and Georgia.

[1]By order of the General Conference each bishop is required to reside within the bounds of his own district.

CHAPTER XXV.

Annual Conference Districts.

The boundaries of the conferences shall be as follows:

ALLEGHENY.

1. Beginning at the southwest corner of Mercer County, Pennsylvania; thence along the southern line of Mercer and Venango counties to Clarion County; thence north along the eastern line of Venango County to Warren County; thence along the southern line of Warren, McKean, and Potter counties; thence north along the eastern line of Potter County to the New York State line; thence along the State line between New York and Pennsylvania to the north branch of the Susquehanna River; thence along the west line of the East Pennsylvania and Pennsylvania conferences to the State of Maryland; thence along the south line of the State of Pennsylvania to the southwest corner of the State; thence along the State line to the place of beginning.

CALIFORNIA.

2. California Conference embraces the State of California.

CHICKAMAUGA.

3. Chickamauga Conference embraces the State of Tennessee and the country south, wherever churches are organized among the colored people.

COLORADO.

4. Colorado Conference includes the States of Colorado, Wyoming, and Utah.

COLUMBIA RIVER.

5. Beginning on the northern boundary of the State of Washington; thence south along the Cascade Mountains to the Columbia River; thence up the Columbia River to the mouth of the John Day River; thence south along said river to its source; thence east to the Oregon line, including all the territory of Washington and Oregon east of the line above given, and also the State of Idaho.

EAST NEBRASKA.

6. Beginning at the northeast corner of Douglas County, Nebraska; thence west to the Platte River; thence along said river to the West Nebraska Conference line; thence south on said line to the southern boundary line of Nebraska; thence east to the southeast corner of said State; thence north along the east line of said State to the point of beginning. The town of Chester, in Thayer County, Nebraska, to belong to Northwest Kansas Conference. (Fremont, on the Union Pacific Railroad, to belong to North Nebraska Conference.)

EAST OHIO.

7. Beginning at the northeast corner of the State of Ohio; thence south along the State line and the Ohio River to Marietta; thence up the Muskingum River to a point opposite the northwest corner of Noble County, Ohio; then due east to said northeast corner of Noble County; thence north along the east line of Muskingum and Guernsey counties, Ohio; thence west along the north line of Muskingum and Licking counties, Ohio, to the east line of Delaware County, Ohio; thence west from this point to Delaware, Ohio; thence north along the eastern boundary of Sandusky Conference to Sandusky City, Ohio; thence eastward along the northern boundary of the State of Ohio to the place of beginning.

EAST PENNSYLVANIA.

8. Beginning at the northeast boundary of the State of New Jersey on the Atlantic Coast; thence along the said boundary line and the Delaware River to the northern boundary of Pennsylvania; thence westward along said boundary to the north branch of the Susquehanna River; thence along said river to the junction of the north and west branches of the Susquehanna River; thence southward along the east shore of the Susquehanna River and the Chesapeake Bay to the Atlantic Ocean; thence northward along the Atlantic Coast to the place of beginning. Said conference shall be the legal successor of Eastern Conference and East Pennsylvania Conference. All rights, interests, bequests, and obligations of said conferences shall inhere in the said East Pennsylvania Conference.

EAST TENNESSEE.

9. East Tennessee Conference embraces all the territory in Tennessee lying east of the Cumberland Mountains.

ERIE.

10. Beginning on the shore of Lake Erie, at the northwest corner of the State of Pennsylvania; thence south along the State line between Ohio and Pennsylvania to the southwest corner of Mercer County, Pennsylvania; thence east with the line as described in the bounding of Allegheny Conference to the New York State line, and including the State of New York and all that part of Pennsylvania embraced within the above-described limits; provided, that Orangeville Circuit be included in Erie Conference.

GEORGIA.

11. Georgia Conference embraces all the States of Georgia and Florida.

INDIANA.

12. Indiana Conference embraces all territory in Indiana south of the following line: Beginning at the northwest corner of Sullivan County eastward to White River, thence up White River to the northwest corner of Monroe County, thence eastward along north line of Monroe, Brown, and Bartholomew counties, thence northward and eastward along the north line of Decatur, Fayette, and Union counties to the Ohio line. It becomes the legal successor of those parts of divided Upper Wabash Conference lying within these limits. Lewis Class in Vigo County and Middleburn, Briley, and Beech classes in Clay County are included in Indiana Conference.

IOWA STATE CONFERENCE.

13. Iowa Conference embraces all of the State of Iowa.

KENTUCKY.

14. Kentucky Conference embraces all the State of Kentucky, except Covington and Newport, which belong to Miami Conference.

LOUISIANA.

15. Louisiana Conference embraces the States of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama.

LOWER WABASH.

16. The Lower Wabash Conference includes all the territory in the State of Illinois south of the line described in the southern boundary of the Northern Illinois Conference, together with Danville Station, Danville Circuit, and that part of Gessie Circuit lying in Illinois, and Oakwood Circuit.

MIAMI.

17. Beginning at the mouth of the Great Miami River; thence north along the western boundary of the State of Ohio, to the northwest corner of Darke County, Ohio; thence eastward along the Sandusky Conference line to Sidney, Ohio; thence to the east line of Champaign County, Ohio; thence southwest along the east line of the counties of Champaign, Clarke, and Greene to the north line of Clinton County; thence west on the north line of Clinton County to the northeast corner of Warren County; thence south on the east line of Warren County to the north line of Clermont County; thence west on the north line of Clermont County to the east line of Hamilton County; thence south on the east line of Hamilton County to the Ohio River; thence down the Ohio River to the place of beginning; provided, that the cities of Newport and Covington, in the State of Kentucky, and the Rockdale Church, in the State of Indiana, shall belong to the Miami Conference.

MICHIGAN.

18. The Michigan Conference embraces all the State of Michigan.

MINNESOTA.

19. The Minnesota Conference embraces all of the State of Minnesota.

MISSOURI.

20. The Missouri Conference embraces the State of Missouri.

NEOSHO.

21. Beginning at the southwest corner of Chautauqua County, Kansas; thence north to the south line of Northeast Kansas Conference; thence due east to the State line; thence to the south line of Kansas; thence west on the south line of Kansas to the place of beginning.

NORTHEAST KANSAS.[1]

22. Beginning at the center of the north line of Washington County, Kansas; thence due south to the Republican River; thence down said river to its mouth; thence south to the north line of Southwest Kansas Conference; thence east to the State line; thence north to the north line of the State; thence to the place of beginning.

[1] NOTE.—It was resolved to submit to the Northeast Kansas Conference and the Northwest Kansas Conference respectively, the question of their union to form a conference to be called the North Kansas Conference, to be determined by majority vote of the members of each of said conferences.

NORTHERN ILLINOIS.

23. Northern Illinois Conference embraces all the territory of the State of Illinois north of the following-described line: Beginning at the point on the State line east of Danville where the Big Four Railroad enters the State of Illinois, thence west along the line of said railroad to the Illinois Central Railroad at Champaign, thence south along the Illinois Central Railroad to Tolono, thence west along the line of the Wabash Railroad to the Illinois River, thence along said river to its mouth, including also Springfield, Decatur, and Oakley Circuit. This conference is hereby declared to be in all respects the legal successor of the now divided territory of the Upper Wabash Conference falling within the above-described lines.

The State line between Indiana and Illinois is hereby made the boundary between all conferences in the States of Indiana and Illinois, provided that all territory which formerly coöperated with Westfield College still continue to do so.

NORTH NEBRASKA.

24. This conference embraces all that part of the State of Nebraska which lies east and north of the following boundary line, to wit: Beginning with the north line of Town twenty-four in Nebraska; thence east on said line to the sources of Cedar River; thence down said river to Fullerton; thence south to the Platte River; thence east along the Platte River to the northwest corner of Douglas County, Nebraska; thence east along the north boundary line of said county to the northeast corner of said county, and all the State of South Dakota.

NORTH TEXAS.

25. North Texas Conference includes the territory within the following limits: Beginning at the southwest corner of New Mexico and running east on the line between Texas and New Mexico and through Texas to the one hundredth meridian; thence north along this meridian across the strip of Oklahoma to the Kansas State line, severing from the Oklahoma Conference and embracing in the Texas Conference the counties of Beaver, Texas, and Cimarron; thence along the southern line of Kansas west to the northwest corner of New Mexico, thence south to the place of beginning, El Paso, Texas, however, also to be included.

NORTHWEST KANSAS.

26. Beginning on the northern boundary of Kansas at the center of Washington County; thence south to the Republican River; thence down said river to its mouth; thence due south to the north line of Southwest Kansas Conference; thence west to the Colorado line; thence north to the Nebraska line; thence east to the place of beginning. That Chester, in Thayer County, Nebraska, belong to North-West Kansas Conference.

OHIO GERMAN.

27. Ohio German Conference embraces the States of Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, and Illinois. Permission is also granted to go into any of the Western States or Territories, where doors of usefulness may be open to labor among the German population.

OKLAHOMA.

28. Oklahoma Conference is made to embrace all the territory within the State lines of Oklahoma, including the part lying east of the Arkansas River, which is hereby detached from the Neosho Conference, but excluding Beaver, Texas, and Cimarron counties, which are hereby detached from the Oklahoma Conference.

OREGON.

29. Oregon Conference embraces in its territory all the States of Oregon and Washington not occupied by the Columbia River Conference.

PENNSYLVANIA.

30. Beginning at the mouth of the Juniata River; thence along said river westward to the crest of the Tuscarora Mountains; thence southward along the crest of said mountains to the State of Maryland; thence westward along the Pennsylvania and Maryland State lines to the northwest corner of Washington County, Maryland; thence southward along the western boundary of said county to the Potomac River; thence along said river to the Chesapeake Bay; thence eastward along the coast to the mouth of the Susquehanna River; thence northward along said river to the place of beginning. Said conference shall be the legal successor of Pennsylvania and Maryland conferences. All rights, interests, bequests, and obligations belonging to said conferences shall inhere in the said Pennsylvania Conference.

SANDUSKY.

31. Beginning at Sandusky, Ohio; thence south along the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad to Shelby Junction; thence south and west along the Big Four Railroad to Delaware and Marysville, Ohio; thence west along the south line of Logan County to Sidney, Ohio; thence west on a straight line to the northeast corner of Darke County, Ohio; thence west to the west line of the State of Ohio; thence north along the State line to the northwest corner of the State line of Ohio; thence east to Sandusky, Ohio, the place of beginning. Sidney, Galion, Shelby, and Chicago, Ohio, to belong to the Sandusky Conference. The Sandusky Conference to become and to be the true and legal successor of Auglaize and North Ohio conferences,[1] and all proportionate property rights, interests, and legacies vested in the said Auglaize, North Ohio, and Central Ohio conferences, in proportion to the membership of said conferences in its bounds, shall inhere in the said Sandusky Conference.

[1]The journals of the said conferences to be placed in the Church Historical Society depository at the United Brethren Publishing House.

SOUTHWEST KANSAS.

32. Beginning at the southeast corner of Cowell County, Kansas, and running due north to and including Strong City, Kansas; thence west to the Colorado State line; thence south to the south line of the State of Kansas; thence east

along the south line of Kansas to the west line of Neosho Conference.

SOUTHEAST OHIO.

33. Beginning at Delaware, Ohio; thence along the boundary line of East Ohio Conference in a southeasterly direction to Marietta, Ohio; thence down the Ohio River to the east line of Hamilton County, Ohio; thence to the northwest corner of Clermont County; thence along the north line of Clermont County to the east line of Warren County, Ohio; thence northward on the east line of the counties of Warren, Greene, Clarke, and Champaign to the south line of Sandusky Conference; thence eastward along said line to Delaware Ohio, the place of beginning. Said conference to be the legal successor of Scioto and Central Ohio conferences. All rights, interests, and bequests of said conferences within these bounds shall inhere in the said Southeast Ohio Conference.

ST. JOSEPH.

34. St. Joseph Conference embraces all territory north of the following-described line: Beginning at the southwest Corner of Warren County, thence east on said county line to the Wabash River, thence up said river to the Tippecanoe County line, thence south to the Montgomery County line, thence east on said county line to Hamilton County; thence north to Howard County; thence east on Howard County line to Grant County; thence north on Grant County line to Wabash County; thence west and north on Wabash County line to the Wabash River; thence along the Wabash River to the Ohio State line. It hereby becomes legal successor to those parts of the divided Upper Wabash Conference that lie within these described lines.

VIRGINIA.

35. The Virginia Conference embraces the State of Virginia; also, that part of West Virginia lying east of the west boundary lines of the counties of Grant and Pendleton of said State; also, Allegheny County, Maryland, and that part of Garrett County, Maryland, lying east of the boundary of West Virginia Conference. (The Swanton and Bethlehem churches to belong to West Virginia Conference.)

WEST NEBRASKA.

36. Beginning at the northeast corner of Hamilton County; thence south to the Thayer County line; thence east six miles; thence south to the Nebraska State line; thence west to the southwest corner of the State of Nebraska; thence north to the northwest corner of Perkins County, Nebraska; thence west to the west Nebraska State line; thence north to the line of the North Nebraska Conference; thence east and south along the boundary of said conference to the place of beginning.

WEST TENNESSEE.

37. West Tennessee Conference embraces all the territory of the State of Tennessee lying west of the Cumberland Mountains.

WEST VIRGINIA.

38. Beginning with the summit of the Allegheny Mountains at the line between Pennsylvania and Maryland; thence along the summit of said mountains southwest to the Grant County line; thence along the west line of said county to Pendleton County; thence along the west line of said county to the Virginia State line; thence along the State line to the Kentucky State line; thence north to the Ohio River; thence with said river to the Pennsylvania State line; thence east on said line to the place of beginning.

WHITE RIVER.

39. White River Conference consists of all the territory in the State of Indiana lying between Indiana Conference and St. Joseph Conference, as defined under those heads, and becomes legal successor of such parts of divided Upper Wabash Conference as fall within these limits, and to such part of Lower Wabash Conference as lie within same limits.

WISCONSIN.

40. Wisconsin Conference embraces all the State of Wisconsin.

Foreign Mission Conferences.

CHINA.

The China Foreign Mission Conference embraces the territory occupied by the United Brethren missions in Southern China, with Canton as headquarters.

JAPAN.

The Japan Foreign Mission Conference embraces the territory occupied by the United Brethren missions in central portion of Japan, with Tokyo as headquarters.

PHILIPPINES.

The Philippine Foreign Mission Conference embraces the territory occupied by the United Brethren missions in Union Province, and portions of adjacent sub-provinces, Philippine Islands.

PORTO RICO.

The Porto Rico Foreign Mission Conference embraces the territory occupied by the United Brethren Church in the Ponce District, Porto Rico.

WEST AFRICA.

The West Africa Foreign Mission Conference embraces the territory occupied by the United Brethren missions in Sierra Leone, West Africa.

PART VIII.

FORMULAS AND FORMS.

CHAPTER XXVI.

FORMULAS.

SECTION I.

RECEPTION OF MEMBERS.

When at any meeting there are persons who desire to unite with the Church, the officiating minister shall call the applicants forward and address than as follows:

DEAR FRIENDS: Inasmuch as you present yourselves for admission into the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, we rejoice with you that through the grace of God you have been brought to a knowledge of the truth, and have been made partakers of his great salvation. The privileges you seek are above price, and the duties enjoined are solemn. It is proper that you publicly confess your faith and avow your purpose by answering the following questions:

Questions to applicants:

(1) Do you believe the Bible to be the word of God, and that therein only is contained the knowledge of the way of salvation?

(2) Do you believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and do you accept him as your personal Savior?

(3) Are you determined by the grace of God to follow Christ, renouncing the world and all ungodliness, seeking to lead a life of holiness and devotion to God and his cause?

(4) Are you willing to be governed by our Church Discipline, and will you contribute to the support of the gospel as God prospers you?

(5) Have you been baptized?

[If the answer to this question be in the negative, then the applicant shall be instructed to attend to the duty as soon as practicable.]

If the persons answer the above questions in the affirmative, and no lawful objections be made by any member, then the preacher shall give his right hand to such persons as members of our Church. Then the members of the Church

will stand, and the minister will repeat this covenant as follows:

"Do you, the members of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, enter into a covenant with this applicant [or these applicants] for membership, and promise to watch over, instruct, counsel, and cherish him [or her or them] with all long-suffering, gentleness, and love?"

The Church will then answer, "By the grace of God we will." After which the hand of fellowship may be extended. The preacher shall then register the names of the accepted members in the Church record.

Section II.

THE BAPTISM OF ADULTS.

Our Lord commanded his apostles, saying, "Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit" (Matt. 28:19). On the day of Pentecost, the multitude, under the preaching of the word, "were pricked in the heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:37, 38).

"Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls" (Acts 2:41).

Philip, the evangelist, went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ to the people. And "when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women" (Acts 8:12).

Dearly beloved, it has pleased God, in his infinite mercy, to awaken you to a sense of your guilt and danger, and to lead you, as we humbly trust, to repentance and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. By presenting yourself for this holy sacrament, you declare your purpose to lead a new life, and to seek an inheritance with the righteous in the "house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

Do you now solemnly consecrate yourself to Christ and his service; and will you endeavor henceforth to keep God's holy commandments and to walk in the same all the days

of your life? If so, answer, "I will endeavor so to do, the Lord being my helper."

The minister shall then baptize the candidate, the service to be concluded with a short prayer and benediction.

Section III.

THE BAPTISM OF CHILDREN.

"And they brought young children to him, that he should touch them: and his disciples rebuked those that brought them. But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein. And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them" (Mark 10: 13-16.)

In presenting this child for baptism, you not only signify your faith in the Christian religion, of which baptism is an ordinance, but also your desire that he [or she] may early know and follow the will of God, may live and die a Christian, and attain unto everlasting life.

In order to do this, it will be your duty as parents [or guardians] to teach him [or her] early the fear of the Lord; to watch over his [or her] education, that he [or she] be not led astray; to direct his [or her] youthful mind to the Holy Scriptures, and his [or her] feet to the sanctuary; to restrain him [or her] from evil associates and habits; and, as much as in you lies, to bring him [or her] up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Will you endeavor so to do, by the help of God? If so, answer, "I will."

The minister shall then baptize the child, repeating the full name of the same, saying:

I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

All to be followed by a short prayer by the minister.

Section IV.

THE HOLY COMMUNION.

"He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Sure-

ly he hath born our griefs, and carried our sorrows; yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed" (Isa. 53:3-5).

"And when the hour was come, he sat down and the twelve apostles with him. And he said unto them, With desire I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer: for I say unto you, I will not any more eat thereof, until it be fulfilled in the kingdom of God. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, Take this, and divide it among yourselves: for I say unto you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God shall come. And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you" (Luke 22:14-20).

"For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, that the Lord Jesus, the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come" (I. Cor. 11:23-26).

As many of you as truly love our Lord Jesus Christ are now invited to draw near, and humbly receive these elements in memory of the suffering and death of your Lord and Savior.

Singing.

Prayer.

Administration of the elements.

Section V.

Ordination of Elders.

[On the day appointed for ordination services a suitable sermon shall be preached, whenever practicable. The officiating bishop (or elder in the absence of a bishop) shall call, if they be present, one or more elders to assist him in the ceremonies of ordination.]

1. ADDRESS TO THE CANDIDATES.

After the names of the candidates have been read aloud, the bishop (or elder) shall address them as follows:

An elder "must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre; but a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate; holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers" (Tit. 1:7-9).

Are you assured that you are inwardly moved by the Holy Ghost to take upon you the office of the ministry to serve God in the church of Christ to the honor and glory of his holy name? If so, answer, "I trust I am."

Do you believe the Holy Scriptures, Old and New Testaments? If so, answer, "I do believe them."

Will you apply due diligence to frame and fashion your life according to the doctrines of Christ, and to make yourself, as much as in you lies, a wholesome example to the flock of Christ? If so, answer, "I will, the Lord being my helper."

Will you loyally maintain the doctrines and polity of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, and devote yourself with all possible zeal and faithfulness to the extension of the Master's kingdom in whatever field you may be assigned from time to time in the ministerial service? If so, answer, "I will endeavor, through the grace of God, to do so."

2. PRAYER.

By the officiating bishop.

3. CHARGE TO THE CANDIDATES.

After the prayer the bishop and elders shall lay their hands upon the heads of each of them, and the bishop shall say:

Take thou authority to execute the office of an elder in the church of God, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Hereupon the bishop or elder shall deliver to each of them the Holy Bible, saying:

Take thou authority to preach the word of God and to administer the ordinances in the church of Christ.

4. PRAYER.

By the bishop or one of the elders.

5. SCRIPTURE ADMONITION.

After the prayer the bishop shall read Luke 12:35-38.

"Let your loins be girded about, and your lights burning; and ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately. Blessed are those servants whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching; verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them. And if he shall come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them so, blessed are those servants."

6. BENEDICTION.

The following benediction is to be pronounced:

The peace of God keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SECTION VI.

HOME MISSION CONSECRATION SERVICE AND PROGRAM.

DEARLY BELOVED: You have been appointed as missionary to ..... and are commissioned to carry the bread of eternal life to souls who will perish without it.

Listen to the word of the Lord (Acts 2:21), "And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved." Romans 10:14, 15, "How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? and how shall they preach except they be sent?"

We believe that under the direction of the Lord the Home Missionary Society is about to send you out to preach the living word to perishing souls.

Question. Have you a deep, abiding love for, and an absorbing interest in the salvation of souls? and have you felt especially called of God to this work? If so, answer: "I trust I have."

God's Word says (Acts 26:16): "But arise and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these

things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee." (Acts 1:8): "Ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Acts 26:18: "To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me."

Question. Are you willing to work under the direction of the Home Missionary Society of the United Brethren in Christ, and will you devote your time and energy to this work to which they have appointed you? If so, answer, "I will, the Lord being my helper."

It is God's will (Luke 24:47, 48) "that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And ye are witnesses of these things."

Question. Do you then publicly dedicate yourself to God and his work, who has said if you will "go," "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world"? If so, answer, "I do."

PROVISIONAL PROGRAM.

(To be used in connection with above service.)

1. Song. (Otterbein Hymnal No. 419, "I Love to Tell the Story.")
2. Scripture. II. Timothy 4:1-8.
3. Song. (Otterbein Hymnal No. 411, "Rescue the Perishing.")
4. Explanatory Remarks.
5. Remarks by Candidates.
6. Song. (Otterbein Hymnal No. 277, "Take My Life.")
7. Charge to Candidates.
8. Reading of Consecration Service.
9. Consecratory Prayer.
10. Song. (Otterbein Hymnal No. 542, "America.")
11. Benediction.

SECTION VII.

FOREIGN MISSIONARY CONSECRATION AND COMMISSION SERVICE.

(Suggested Program.)

1. Song. (Hymns for the Sanctuary No. 771, "Stand up for Jesus.")

2. Scripture lesson. Romans 10:12-15; Acts 26:16-20 and 13:47-49.

3. Prayer.

4. Song. (Hymns for the Sanctuary No. 867. "How Firm a Foundation.")

5. Introductory Words.

6. Remarks by the Candidates.

7. Song. (Hymns for the Sanctuary No. 895. "Jesus Shall Reign.")

8. Charge to the Candidates.

COMMISSION AND CONSECRATION SERVICE.

9. The representative of the Board shall then address the candidates as follows:

"And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world." Matt. 28:18-20.

You have listened to the command which Christ gave to his first disciples and which constitutes his church a missionary church in all ages. You believe that this command applies to all followers of Christ to-day, and that it is incumbent upon them, in so far as may be possible, to devote their lives to the extension of his kingdom in the earth. Earnestly seeking to obey this command, you are convinced that it is your duty and privilege to engage in the service of Christ in a foreign land. You have heard the call of God sounding in the depths of your own soul and summoning you to this high endeavor. This call you have found to be confirmed by the circumstances of your life, the opinion of your friends, and the judgment of this Board. In recognition of these facts, and following, as we believe, the leadership of the Holy Spirit, we desire to set you apart to the work of a foreign missionary, to witness for Christ in non-Christian lands, and to bestow upon you the commission of the Foreign Missionary Society.

Question. Have you a deep love for souls, and a strong passion for their salvation, and have you felt especially called of God to missionary work? If so, answer, "I trust I have."

Question. Do you give yourself unreservedly to the work of Christ in the land to which you have been assigned? In humble reliance upon the divine help, do you make it the purpose of your life to walk with Christ as his missionary, faithful in word and deed, and in hearty coöperation with your fellow-workers, under the direction of this Board? If so, answer, "I do."

I, then, by virtue of the authority bestowed upon me by the Foreign Missionary Society of the United Brethren in Christ, do present you with this commission:

THE FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF THE UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST.

DAYTON, OHIO, U. S. A.

To All to Whom This Shall Come, Christian Greetings.

This certifies that ..... is appointed a missionary of the gospel of Jesus Christ, our Lord, to ....., under the direction and regulations of THE FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY of the UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST, and is entitled to all the rights and privileges attaching to that office.

Given this ..... day of ....., 19...

.....
President of Board.

.....
Chairman of Executive Committee.

.....
General Secretary.

"Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."

10. Prayer of Consecration.

11. Song. (Hymns for the Sanctuary No. 612, "Children of the Heavenly King.")

12. Benediction.

SECTION VIII.

THE CONSECRATION OF A DEACONESS.

After a suitable religious introductory service has been held, the officiating bishop (or elder in the absence of the bishop), may call other elders, if they be present, to assist in the consecration service.

To be read by the officiating bishop:

There were deaconesses as well as deacons in the apostolic church. This is evident from the words of Paul to the Christians at Rome (Rom. 16:1): "I commend unto you Phebe, our sister, who is a deaconess [according to the marginal reading of the Revised Version] of the church that is at Cenchrea." In the same chapter the apostle salutes Priscilla, Mary, Tryphæna, and Tryphosa as those "who labor in the Lord."

In Paul's first letter to Timothy (I. Tim. 3:11) he directed that deaconesses should be "grave, not slanderers, temperate, faithful in all things."

In the church, immediately succeeding the time of the apostles, we have historical evidence of the order of deaconesses. Pliny, writing in the early part of the second century, mentioned the presence and work of deaconesses in the churches of Bithynia.

The duties of a deaconess in the early Christian church were substantially the same as those of a deacon. Their work was a high and holy calling, requiring sacrificial and unselfish service. In no case was it sought except for the love of Christ and humanity.

We believe that the aim and purpose of a deaconess to-day should be to minister as Jesus did to the wants of a sin-laden and suffering world. She should visit the sick, pray with the dying, relieve the poor, care for the orphans, counsel sinners to seek the Savior, and perform such other Christ-like services as may be needed.

Because of the sacredness of the work of a deaconess, only such as feel specially led by the Spirit and the providence of God should enter upon it. It is proper that all persons, having received the divine call, and having been tested and trained during a reasonable period of time, should be solemnly set apart to this holy vocation in the Church.

Therefore, in harmony with what we believe to be the spirit and intent of the Holy Scriptures, and in accordance with the usages of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, we proceed in solemn manner to consecrate to the work of a deaconess sister .....

The following question should be asked:

My dear sister, do you assume the duties of a deaconess in the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, and do you

agree to perform faithfully those duties which are prescribed in our Book of Discipline? If so, answer, "I do."

Prayer of consecration.

Delivery of certificate.

Song, "Take my life and let it be."

Benedictory prayer.

Section IX.

LAYING CORNER-STONE.

The officiating minister shall say:

Beloved: In ancient time God commanded his servant Moses to set up the tabernacle in the wilderness, and bestowed his blessing upon Solomon, the king, in erecting the temple in Jerusalem, whither the tribes came up to worship. In like manner he has moved your hearts to erect a sanctuary, where, in years to come, his people may assemble for prayer and praise. We have met together at this time to lay the corner-stone with proper religious services.

The following order of services may then be observed:

1. *Singing.*
2. *Reading of Scripture.* (Ps. 132; I. Cor. 3: 8-23.)
3. *Prayer.*
4. *Singing.*
5. *Sermon or address.*
6. *Collection.*
7. *Laying of stone.*

The minister, standing by the stone, shall exhibit the box to be deposited, and read the list of contents. Then the minister, assisted by the builder, shall deposit the box and adjust the stone to its resting-place. This done, the minister shall strike the stone thrice with a trowel, or hammer, and say:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, we lay this corner-stone in the foundation of a house to be erected and dedicated for the worship of God, wherein his word shall be preached and his worship maintained. Amen.

8. *Singing.*
9. *Benediction.*

Section X.

CHURCH DEDICATION.

The following order of service may be used:

1. *Scripture reading.* (Ps. 84; or, Isa. 62 and Ps. 122.)
2. *Singing.*
3. *Prayer.*
4. *Singing.*
5. *Sermon.*
6. *Offering.*
7. *Singing.*
8. *Scripture reading, with congregation standing.*

"But will God indeed dwell on the earth? behold, the heaven, and heaven of heavens, cannot contain thee; how much less this house that I have builded? Yet have thou respect unto the prayer of thy servant, and to his supplication, O Lord my God, to hearken unto the cry and unto the prayer which thy servant prayeth before thee to-day: that thine eyes may be open toward this house night and day, even toward the place of which thou hast said, My name shall be there: that thou mayest hearken unto the prayer which thy servant shall make toward this place. And hearken thou to the supplication of thy servant, and of thy people Israel, when they shall pray toward this place: and hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place: and when thou hearest, forgive.

"If any man trespass against his neighbour, and an oath be laid upon him to cause him to swear, and the oath come before thine altar in this house: then hear thou in heaven, and do, and judge thy servants, condemning the wicked, to bring his way upon his head; and justifying the righteous, to give him according to his righteousness.

"When thy people Israel be smitten down before the enemy, because they have sinned against thee, and shall turn again to thee, and confess thy name, and pray, and make supplication unto thee in this house: then hear thou in heaven and forgive the sin of thy people Israel, and bring them again unto the land which thou gavest unto their fathers.

"When heaven is shut up, and there is no rain, because they have sinned against thee; if they pray toward this place, and confess thy name, and turn from their sin, when thou afflictest them: then hear thou in heaven, and forgive

the sin of thy servants, and of thy people Israel, that thou teach them the good way wherein they should walk, and give rain upon thy land, which thou hast given to thy people for an inheritance.

"If there be in the land famine, if there be pestilence, blasting, mildew, locust, or if there be caterpiller; if their enemy besiege them in the land of their cities; whatsoever plague, whatsoever sickness there be; what prayer and supplication soever be made by any man, or by all thy people Israel, which shall know every man the plague of his own heart, and spread forth his hands toward this house: then hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place, and forgive, and do, and give to every man according to his ways, whose heart thou knowest; (for thou, even thou only, knowest the hearts of all the children of men;) that they may fear thee all the days that they live in the land which thou gavest unto our fathers.

"Moreover, concerning a stranger that is not of thy people Israel, but cometh out of a far country for thy name's sake; (for they shall hear of thy great name, and of thy strong hand, and of thy stretched out arm;) when he shall come and pray toward this house; hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place, and do according to all that the stranger calleth to thee for; that all thy people of the earth may know thy name, to fear thee, as do thy people Israel; and that they may know that this house, which I have builded, is called by thy name" (I. Kings 8:27-43).

"We will go into his tabernacles: we will worship at his footstool" (Ps. 132:7).

"For the Lord hath chosen Zion; he hath desired it for his habitation. This is my rest forever: here will I dwell; for I have desired it. I will abundantly bless her provision: I will satisfy her poor with bread. I will also clothe her priests with salvation: and her saints shall shout aloud for joy" (Ps. 132:13-16).

"Now, my God, let, I beseech thee, thine eyes be open, and let thine ears be attent unto the prayer that is made in this place. Now therefore arise, O Lord God, into thy resting place, thou, and the ark of thy strength: let thy priests, O Lord God, be clothed with salvation, and let thy saints rejoice in goodness" (II. Chr. 6:40, 41).

"Blessed be the Lord God of Israel from everlasting to

everlasting: and let all the people say, Amen. Praise ye the Lord" (Ps. 106:48).

9. *Dedicatory Prayer.*

And now, Lord God of our fathers, we give this house to thee. As thy people have builded it for thy worship and glory, we pray that thou wilt accept it in the name of thy Son our Savior, and manifest thyself approvingly to all who have given to this work with a sincere desire to honor thee and to save men. As thou didst dwell in the temple at Jerusalem, so make this thy resting place. Show forth thy power and glory here from time to time in the salvation of sinners, and in the edification of thy people. When thy servants preach the word in this house, be thou in them, and accompany the truth by thy Holy Spirit, to the hearts of all who shall hear. And when thy people meet in this place for prayer and praise, reveal thyself graciously to their faith, and vouchsafe unto them the joys of thy great salvation. Preserve this house, we beseech thee, from fire and storm, and make it a very great blessing to as many as shall worship before thine altar. May the people remember that this is thy house—the place where thy honor dwelleth—and approach it with reverence and gladness. And not only accept this house, but accept also our hearts as we dedicate them anew to thee. Cleanse them and make them fit temples for the indwelling of thy Spirit. Accept, we pray thee, all we bring in this hour of consecration, sealing it with thine own approval. And at last gather us all into that eternal temple not made with hands, and thy name, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, worthy and glorious, shall have all the praise evermore. Amen.

10. *Address to the trustees at the dedication of a church, the trustees standing in front of the altar.*

Brethren: You have been selected by the church to hold the honorable and responsible place of trustees of this house of worship, now dedicated to the service of Almighty God. In this office you represent the church, and will act on its behalf and for its welfare, but in no sense forget the interests of the community which are identified with the house of God.

It is your duty to protect, and to improve or repair this building and grounds as occasion may arise: also, to provide suitable fuel, and, further to employ a janitor, who shall

open and close the house for all appointed services, keeping it properly warmed during the cold weather, correctly ventilated at all times, and always clean and inviting, as becomes the house of God.

The house of God is sacred; it is God's holy temple, where he is to be worshiped in the beauty of holiness and love; therefore, do nothing in vainglory, but by love serve one another. Nothing should enter this sacred place that will defile the temple of God; but at the same time let it ever be remembered that all works of justice, of mercy, of love, of helpfulness of whatsoever kinds are proper in the house of God. Anything that will edify men will glorify God, and should not be foreign to this house.

You are only a part of the persons interested in this property; secure the good will and coöperation of all of them, so far as possible, in all your plans. You hold your office at the option of the quarterly conference; therefore, seek its counsel in all important matters. You are the assistants of the pastor; honor and aid him in all the work of the church.

I now give this key to the president of the board as the symbol of your authority. I pray that Christian faith and hope and love may dwell in your hearts, and that the Holy Spirit may be your guide and comforter.

11. Delivery of the keys in the name of the Trinity to hold in trust for God and the United Brethren in Christ.

12. Doxology.

13. Benediction.

Section XI.

The Marriage Ceremony.

The minister shall say:

We are gathered together in the sight of God and in the presence of these witnesses, to join together *N.* and *M.* as husband and wife. The institution of marriage is coeval with the family of man. God saw that it was not good for man to be alone even in paradise, and formed and gave to him woman, that she might be a "help meet for him." This union, like that of the body and soul, is only to be severed by the hand of death.

Here the minister may say:

If any person present knows any just cause or impediment why these persons should not be joined in marriage, let the same now speak or forever keep silent.

No impediment being alleged, the minister, addressing the persons to be married, shall further say:

Deeming it sufficient to refer you to the Holy Scriptures concerning the duties you will henceforth owe to each other, I will proceed to receive your mutual plighted faith, and seal your marriage vows.

To the man:

Will you have this woman to be your wedded wife, to live with her after God's ordinance; will you love, honor, comfort, and cherish her, in sickness and in health, in prosperity and adversity, and forsaking all others, keep yourself to her only, so long as you both shall live? If so, answer, "I will."

To the woman:

Will you have this man to be your wedded husband, to live with him after God's ordinance; will you love, honor, comfort, and cherish him, in health and in sickness, in prosperity and adversity, and forsaking all others, keep yourself unto him only, so long as you both shall live? If so, answer, "I will."

The minister shall then join their right hands, and placing his right hand upon theirs, shall say:

Those whom God hath joined together, let no man put asunder. Inasmuch as you have consented together in marriage, and have declared the same before God and in the presence of these witnesses, I pronounce you husband and wife, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The minister may then offer a brief extempore prayer, to be followed by this benediction:

May God the gracious Father bless, preserve, and keep you; the Lord, mercifully, with his favor, look upon you, and fill you with all spiritual blessings and grace, that you may so live together in this life that in the world to come you may have everlasting life. Amen.

Section XII.

MARRIAGE CEREMONY WITH RING.

The minister shall say:

Dearly beloved, we are here in the sight of God, and in the presence of these witnesses, to unite together these two persons in holy marriage. They have passed satisfactorily the tests and requirements of the family, of the state, and of the church, and now stand unchallenged in this presence to be admitted into the holy state commanded by the Word of God, to be had in honor among all men.

It is becoming that this marriage relation be entered into discreetly, reverently, advisedly, soberly, and in the fear of God. I, therefore, a minister of the blessed gospel, entreat you both to seek the help of God in this moment and in all your privileges and duties, that his love and grace may make your union fruitful of comfort and usefulness, and a furtherance of your salvation and everlasting life.

To the man:

Do you take this woman before God and these witnesses to be your wife? If so, answer, "I do."

Do you promise to love and honor her, defend, support, and comfort her, in health and in sickness, in joy and in sorrow, in prosperity and adversity? If so, answer, "I do."

Will you be faithful to her in all things, and endeavor to be a good husband to her so long as you both shall live? If so, answer, "I will."

To the woman:

Do you take this man, before God and these witnesses, to be your husband? If so, answer, "I do."

Do you promise to love, honor, and comfort him, in joy and in sorrow, in health and in sickness, in prosperity and adversity? If so, answer, "I do."

Will you be faithful to him in all things, and endeavor to be a good wife to him so long as you both shall live? If so, answer, "I will."

What token and pledge do you offer that you will faithfully perform these covenant vows?

The man shows the ring, holding it in his right hand, and answers:

This ring.

The minister shall say to the woman:

Do you accept this ring in token of the same covenant upon your part? If so, answer, "I do."

Then the man, the minister guiding his right hand, shall place the ring on the third finger of her left hand, and the minister shall say:

Let us pray.

He may offer an extempore prayer, or use the following:

Our Father which art in heaven, thou hast recorded the promises of these thy servants now made to each other. We entreat thee to unite their hearts and lives in the bond of a true and abiding affection, that they may share all the blessings of a happy marriage. May their lives be preserved from evil, and their love know no doubt, but grow in purity and sweetness with the number of their years. Bestow upon them the Holy Spirit and true heavenly wisdom, that they may be preserved from all things which have a tendency to diminish the happiness of this holy estate. Enable them by thy grace to live together according to thy holy will, and may they at last enter into eternal life and fellowship with thy saints in the kingdom of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Then shall the minister request them to join their right hands; the minister, laying his right hand upon theirs, shall say to them:

Inasmuch as you have covenanted together in these sacred bonds, and have witnessed the same by this token, I pronounce you husband and wife, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

What therefore God hath joined together let no man put asunder.

"The Lord bless thee, and keep thee: the Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: the Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace." Amen.

SECTION XIII.

BURIAL OF THE DEAD.

After the coffin is lowered into the grave, the minister shall repeat the following:

"Man that is born of a woman is of few days and full of trouble. He cometh forth like a flower, and is cut down:

he fleeth also as a shadow, and continueth not." "Lord, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is; that I may know how frail I am."

In the midst of life we are in death; unto whom should we seek for succor but unto thee, O Lord, who for our sins art justly displeased? Our hope is in thy Son Jesus Christ, who hath said, "I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die." "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

"And I heard a voice from heaven, saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them."

"There shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away."

Inasmuch as God in his wise providence has called out of time into eternity the soul of our brother [sister, or child], we commit his [or her] remains to the ground, earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust, in the confident hope of the general resurrection through our Lord Jesus Christ, at his coming and glory.

Benediction.

Section XIV.

In case the Apostles' Creed or Lord's Prayer be used in any of our services, the following forms may be used:

The Lord's Prayer.

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed.

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth: and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit; born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead,

and buried; he descended into hades. The third day he arose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

CHAPTER XXVII.

Forms.

Section I.

certificates and licenses.

1. Certificate of Transfer of Member.

This is to certify that A. B. is an acceptable member of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, at ——— Class, ——— Charge, ——— Conference, and is hereby transferred to ——— Society, of ——— Charge, ——— Conference.

.....Pastor.

[Date, etc.]

2. Certificate of Membership.

This is to certify that A. B. is a member in good standing of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, at ———, and is hereby recommended to the confidence and fellowship of Christians everywhere.

.....Pastor.

[Date, etc.]

3. Certificate of Withdrawal.

This is to certify that A. B. has been until this date a member in good standing of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, at ———, and at —— request is granted this letter of withdrawal and recommendation from the Church by a vote of the class.

.....Pastor.

[Date, etc.]

4. Return Certificate.

This is to certify that on ——— 19—, ——— was received into the fellowship of the ———, at ———on a certificate from the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, at ———.

.....Pastor.

Please fill out and return to.....

5. License for Quarterly-Conference Preacher.

This is to certify that ——— is an approved preacher of the gospel in the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, as long as his conduct and doctrine are conformable with the gospel of Christ, as held by this Church. Given at a quarterly conference, held on ——— charge, ——— annual conference, this ——— day of ——— in the year of our Lord ———. Void unless renewed annually.

.....P. E.

[Date, etc.]

6. License for Lay Preacher.

This is to certify that ——— is an approved lay preacher of the gospel in the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, as long as his conduct and doctrine are conformable with the gospel of Christ, as held by this Church. Given at a quarterly conference, held on ——— charge, ——— annual Conference, this ——— day of ——— in the year of our Lord ———. Void unless renewed annually.

.....P. E.

[Date, etc.]

7. Permanent License for Quarterly-Conference Preacher.

This is to certify that ——— has completed the course of reading required, and is hereby granted a permanent licensed as a quarterly-conference preacher by ——— charge, ——— annual conference, in the Church of the United Brethren in Christ.

.....P. E.

[Date, etc.]

8. Annual-Conference Preacher's License.

This is to certify that ——— is an approved preacher of the gospel in the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, as long as his conduct and doctrine are conformable with the gospel of Christ. Given at the ——— annual conference, held in ———, this —— day of ——— in the year of our Lord, ———. Signed in behalf of said conference.

.....Bishop.

[Date, etc.]

9. Elders' License.

This is to certify that ——— is an approved preacher of the gospel in the Church of the United Brethren in Christ,

as long as his conduct and doctrine are conformable with the gospel of Christ, and has been ordained to the office of elder by the laying on of hands.

Given at the ——— annual conference held in ——— this ——— day of ——— in the year of our Lord ———.

Signed and sealed in behalf of said conference.

.....Bishop.

[Date, etc.]

10. Transfer of Preacher.

This is to certify that ——— is a ——— of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ of ———— Conference, and is hereby transferred to ———— conference of said Church.

.....Bishop.

[Date, etc.]

11. Deaconess' Certificate.

This is to certify that ——— is an approved deaconess in the Church of the United Brethren in Christ.

Authorized by the ——— quarterly conference of ——— charge, ——— annual conference.

.....Presiding Elder.

..... Secretary.

12. Deaconess' Certificate of Consecration.

This is to certify that ————, having satisfactorily completed the course of study prescribed in our Book of Discipline, and having proven herself an efficient Christian worker, has been consecrated a regular deaconess in the Church of the United Brethren in Christ by the laying on of hands this ——— day of ——— in the year of our Lord ———, so long as her conduct and doctrine are conformable with the gospel of Christ and with the government of our Church.

Place of consecration ————.

[Signed].....Bishop.

SECTION II.

BEQUESTS.

13. The Missionary Societies.

I give and bequeath to the ——— Missionary Society of the United Brethren in Christ, organized by the General Con-

ference of said Church, May 20, 1853, and incorporated in Butler County, Ohio, September 23, 1854, and reorganized by the General Conference at Topeka, Kansas, May, 1905, the sum of ——— dollars; and the receipt of the treasurer of the society shall be a sufficient discharge thereof to my executors and administrators.

[Name].....

14. The Church-Erection Society.

I bequeath to the Church-Erection Society of the United Brethren in Christ the sum of ——— dollars, to be invested according to the constitution of this society.

[Name].....

15. Woman's Missionary Association.

I give, devise, and bequeath to the Woman's Missionary Association of the United Brethren in Christ, the sum of ——— dollars, to be applied to the purposes set forth in the Articles of Incorporation adopted March 28, 1890.

[Name].....

16. Church Trustees.

I give, devise, and bequeath to the "Trustees of the United Brethren in Christ," an incorporation located at Dayton, Ohio, for the Church of the United Brethren in Christ,

..... Dollars,

to be applied as follows:

(Here state precisely the purpose for which the bequest is made, or say, "To be used at the discretion of said trustees to promote the cause of Christianity in said Church.")

[Name].....

17. Bonebrake Theological Seminary.

I give and bequeath to the Bonebrake Theological Seminary of the United Brethren in Christ, located at Dayton, Ohio, authorized by the General Conference of said Church in Lebanon, Pennsylvania, May 2, 1869, and incorporated according to the laws of Ohio, the sum of ——— dollars; and the receipt of the business manager shall be a sufficient discharge thereof to my executors.

[Name].....

Section III.

REPORTS.

18. Pastor's Report to the Quarterly Conference.

QUARTERLY REPORT.

.....Annual Conference, United Brethren in Christ.

.....District. / .....{ Station / { Circuit / .....Missions. / .....Quarter. / .....19..	CLASSES OR FIELDS OF LABOR.									
	Salem.	Bethel.	Shiloh.	Union.	Liberty.	Zion.	Fairview.	Carmel.	Etc.	Totals.
No. appointments....										
No. members at beginning										
No. members received										
No. members lost...										
No. members at present										
No. baptisms										
Discourses preached..										
Pastoral visits.....										
Class meetings held.										
Telescopes										
Watchwords										
Woman's Evangels...										
No. Sunday schools..										
No. in Home Dept..										
No. on Cradle Roll.										
No. in Adult Bible Classes										
No. in entire schools.										
No. Young People's Societies										
No. Junior Young People's Societies.										
No. Woman's Aid Societies										
No. W. M. A. (local)										
No. in Home Mission Study Classes										
No. in Foreign Mission Study Classes.										
Collected for Pastor's Salary										
Collected for Presiding Elder's Salary.										
Collected for Home Missions										
Offerings for Foreign Missions										
Offerings for Ch. Erection (Easter Offerings)										
Collected for Conference Assessment .										
Offerings for										
Offerings for										

Remarks .....

.....Pastor.

19. Pastor's Quarterly Report to the Presiding Elder.

(Name of conference.)

CHURCH OF THE UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST.

.....Quarter. .....P. E. Superintendent, 19..

P. O. Address.

Name of Charge..... Name and P. O. of Pastor.....
No. of Members..... Salary Promised..... Amt. Pd.....
Pastoral Calls..... Sermons..... Funerals.....
Marriages..... Conversions..... Baptisms.....
Additions..... Losses.....

NAME, LOCATION, AND VALUE OF CHURCHES.

1. .....
2. .....
3. .....
4. .....
5. .....

PARSONAGE, LOCATION, AND VALUE.

.....
Improvements on Churches..... Parsonage.....
Debts on Churches..... Debt on Parsonage.....
Debts pd. on Church..... Debt pd. on Parsonage.....
Insurance on Churches..... Insurance on Parsonage.....

STEWARDS.

Name and Address of P. E. Stewards.....
.....
Assessment for P. E..... Apportionment to
Classes..... Amount paid.....
Circuit or General Steward.....
Address.....

CLASS OR DIVISION STEWARDS.

1. .....
2. .....
3. .....
4. .....
5. .....

CLASS LEADERS.

1. .....
2. .....
3. .....
4. .....
5. .....

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

	Name	Supt.	P. O.	Members	Av. A
1.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
2.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
3.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
4.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
5.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETIES.

	Place	President	Cor. Secy.	Members
1.	.....	.....	.....	.....
2.	.....	.....	.....	.....
3.	.....	.....	.....	.....
4.	.....	.....	.....	.....

Mission Study..... Bible Study..... Finance.....

JUNIOR SOCIETIES.

Place..... Sup't..... Members.... Money.....
Place..... Sup't..... Members.... Money.....
Place..... Sup't..... Members.... Money.....

MEN'S BROTHERHOODS.

1. Place.....President..... Secretary.... Members....
2. Place.....President..... Secretary.... Members....
3. Place.....President..... Secretary.... Members....

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION.

Place..... President..... Members.... Money.....
Place..... President..... Members.... Money.....
Place..... President..... Members.... Money.....
No. of Evangels..... No. in Study Class..... in.....

LADIES' AID SOCIETY.

Place..... President..... Members.....
Place..... Treasurer ..... $.....

CHURCH LITERATURE.

No. of *Religious Telescopes*.....
No. of *Watchwords*.....
No. of *Woman's Evangels*.....

FINANCES.

Raised for Ch. Erection.....Home Missions.....
Foreign Missions..... Sunday-school, Brotherhood, and Young People's Work..... Conference Claims ..... Specials.....

Educational Beneficiary.....
Bonebrake Seminary.....

MISCELLANEOUS.

No. of Mission Study Classes: Foreign..... Home.....
No. of Members in Study Classes: Foreign.... Home....
No of Christian Stewardship Classes..... No of Members.....
Local Preachers.....
Candidates for the Ministry.....Licenses Granted....
Openings for new Sunday Schools.....
Openings for new Preaching Appointments.....
Openings for new Church Building.....
Students in College.....
Prospective College Students.....
....

20. Sunday-School Superintendent's Report.

.....Sunday School.
.....Quarter.
.....[Date.]

1. Number of officers and teachers.....
2. Number of scholars enrolled.....
   (a) Cradle Roll.....
   (b) Beginners' Class.....
   (c) Primary Department.....
   (d) Intermediate Department.....
   (e) Senior Department.....
   (f) Adult Department (including only organized classes) .....
3. Average attendance.....
4. *Watchwords*.....
5. *Friend for Boys and Girls*.....
6. *Lessons for Our Juniors*.....
7. *Lesson Leaves*.....
8. *Quarterlies* (Intermediate and Senior).....
9. *Adult Bible Quarterly*.....
10. *Bible Teachers*.....
11. *Home Department Quarterlies*.....
12. Amount of Offering.....
13. Expenses of the Quarter.....
14. Contributions for Missions.....

Remarks.....
.....Superintendent.

21. Report of President of Young People's Society.

.....Class, ...Quarter.

.....[Date.]

1. Number of members at beginning of quarter:
   Active..... Associate.....
   Honorary.....
2. Members received .....
3. Members lost .....
4. Present membership .....
5. Number associate members converted.....
6. Number meetings held.....
7. Number *Watchwords* taken.....
8. Funds collected .....
9. For what purposes.....
10. Remarks .....

.....President.

22. Class-Leader's Report.

.....Class, ...Quarter.

.....[Date.]

1. Number of members.....
2. Number of meetings held.....
3. Average attendance .....
4. Number of sick and delinquent members visited.....

.....Class-Leader.

23. Class-Steward's Report.

.....Class, ...Quarter.

.....[Date.]

1. Apportionment for year.....
2. Amount due at end of quarter.....
3. Amount paid .....
4. Deficit .....
5. Surplus .....

.....Steward.

24. Annual Report of Treasurer of Board of Church or Parsonage Trustees.

1. *Receipts.*	*Dols.*	*Cts.*
(1) By subscriptions	.....	....
(2) By donations	.....	....
(3) Interest	.....	....
(4) Collections	.....	....
(5) Rents	.....	....
Total receipts	.....	....

2. *Disbursements.*	*Dols.*	*Cts.*
(1) Erection of —— Church at ——		
(2) Paid on debt —		
(a) Principal		
(b) Interest		
(3) Paid for repairs		
(4) For improvements		
Total disbursements		

3. *Indebtedness.*	*Dols.*	*Cts.*
(1) Principal		
(2) Interest		
(3) Bills unpaid		
Total indebtedness		

4. Number of meetings held .....
5. Remarks .....

.....Treasurer.

Section IV.

CONTRIBUTION CARDS.

25. For the Support of Our Local Church.

The sum necessary to meet the current expenses of our local church this year, including the pastor's salary, will be $.....

To help meet these expenses I desire to contribute the weekly amount under which I mark X in the space below.

Amount Weekly for Local Expense.

$10.00	5.00	2.00	1.00	.75	.50	.35	.25	.15	.10	.05

Name ..... Date.....

Address.....

Note.—All subscriptions are calculated on the weekly basis in accordance with I. Cor. 16 : 2. However, if desired, the payments of this subscription may be made monthly, quarterly, or in cash early in the year.

26. Benevolence.

Our churches should introduce a weekly system of giving for benevolences as well as for their local needs, and when a congregation introduces such a system it should be relieved from special appeals for purposes provided for in the weekly system. As a suggestive form of pledge for securing the benevolences, the following is proposed:

The United Brethren in Christ: To Preach the Gospel to Others at Home and Abroad.

Our church desires to raise this year for Foreign Missions $.....; for Home Missions $.....; for Church Erection

$.....; for Board of Sunday School, Brotherhood, and Young People's Work $.....; for Colleges $.....; for Bonebrake Theological Seminary $.....; for Beneficiary Education $.....;and other benevolences $..... Total, $.....

I will give the weekly amount under which I mark X in the space below, for the above-named objects:

Weekly Amount for All Benevolences.

$10.00	5.00	2.00	1.00	.75	.50	.35	.25	.15	.10	.05

Name ..... Date.....

Address.....

NOTE.—All subscriptions are calculated on the weekly basis in accordance with I. Cor. 16:2. However, if desired, the payments may be made monthly, quarterly, or in cash early in the year. Our Lord and Master will be pleased to have every member of his church, including the children, contribute to send his gospel to others.

For Special Object: In addition to the above pledge I desire to give to.....the sum of $.....

ACTS CONCERNING DISCIPLINE.

1. That any parts of the Discipline not in harmony with the acts of this General Conference are hereby repealed, and the editors of the Discipline are authorized to make all parts of the same harmonize.

2. That J. P. Landis, H. F. Shupe, W. O. Fries, and W. R. Funk were constituted a committee to edit the new Discipline.

3. That the new Discipline shall be in effect on and after August 15, 1909.

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